

University and private individuals, and last week that influential body, the Committee of the Limerick Branch of the Irish Commercial Travellers' Federation, have given their views on the matter, and passed resolutions accordingly.

By all accounts, U.C.L. will bring untold prestige, great cultural benefits, and no small amount of business to this already illustrious city of ours. As to the increase in trade, I doubt it very much, as students are notoriously short of money.

Those public-spirited citizens who have passed resolutions in favour of U.C.L.—and I do not refer to the Committee of the Limerick Branch of the Irish Commercial Travellers' Federation, in particular—have, however, jumped to one very sweeping conclusion, namely, that a University would like to come to Limerick. For Limerick is, as it stands, a city open to many improvements.

If these resolution-passers would only devote their energies to such much-needed reforms as the immediate demolition of those prominent eyesores, our public buildings, if they would only start a campaign for what every self-respecting town (as opposed to city) on the Continent and in the United States has—a well-laid out public park, if they would only advise against the wasteful ribbon development taking place in some of our suburbs, if they would only agitate for the substitution of that much begrimed relic of the ages, Limerick Railway Station, by a modern rail and road terminus so badly needed in the city, if they would only shake up the responsible authorities and make them build for us our long overdue civic centre and public buildings, and last, but not least, if they would only solve the most urgent problem of them all, that of slum clearance and the housing shortage—then, and only then, could this city really be called "fair," and could we honestly demand what should be set in an already clean and cultural environment, a University.

But all this is only incidental. Would a University be really beneficial to this city? Granted it might look well in a tourist guide book, and you, Mr. Editor, might have to find space for a column entitled "University Notes." A prominent American, however, once described University graduates, and you will pardon the phrase, as "Educated Hoboes." This, neatly, if callously, sums up what is happening in Ireland. For such a small population as ours, we turn out an enormous number of professional men every year. I say "turn out," because it is the only phrase which describes what happens.

The result, naturally, obeys that age old law of supply and demand, and graduates frustrated in their efforts to find jobs in their own country go overseas, most to England but some to other parts of the world. And Limerick, strangely enough, wants not only to continue in this unprofitable export of the brains of the country, but wants to add to it. University graduates overseas are not even an "invisible asset," for on leaving college at the start of life, they have almost, without exception, no dependents in this country and, therefore, do not send money home, but generally settle down in these foreign countries. Neither do they add to the culture of the homeland, but rather to that of their adopted country. As to the cultural value to the city itself, Universities generally remain very much within themselves and usually resent the intrusion of outsiders.

No, Limerick! First make good your most obvious deficiencies, and make yourself justly entitled to the name of Limerick City and even then do not make the mistake that education in itself means culture, prestige, and prosperity.

"ANTI U.C.L."

FRANCO FREES ALLIED ARMEN

General Franco has freed 867 British and American airmen forced down on Spanish soil since the Allied landings in North Africa. The airmen—294 British and 573 Americans—were taken to La Linea and permitted to cross the half-mile stretch known as "no man's land" into Gibraltar.

KILLED BY TREE

While Matthew Waters, of Ballybeggar, Tubber, Co. Clare, was engaged trying to unearth a large stone, a tree growing near it fell and killed him. Aged 22, he was unmarried.

LIMERICK MAN'S PLAY

Mr. K. O'Hanlon, Rosbrien, Limerick, submitted in the competition for new plays held in conjunction with the Kerry Drama Festival a play entitled "The Flowing Bowl." The work was highly commended.

by the Committee of the list of patients attended by the district nurse on his instructions. He held that it was improper and a breach of professional etiquette to have such matters deliberated upon by a non-statutory body of lay-persons.

To this letter Miss E. Morris, hon. secretary of the District Nursing Association, has replied stating that Dr. Bugler appeared to have been misinformed. The Committee did not feel responsible for unreliable reports circulated of remarks alleged to have been made at Committee meetings. The Committee was a supervisory committee and the nurse was employed by them and not by any local public authority. The nurse's official records were available to the Committee and were used for checking the number of visits, the amount of fees collected, and for the preparation of statistical returns. At no time had the medical details of any case been discussed at meetings of the Committee. Dr. Bugler had been invited on more than one occasion to attend meetings of the Committee held to investigate his complaint but he declined to do so. The district nurse had full instructions to co-operate with Dr. Bugler in his dispensary district and also with the other doctors in town to the fullest extent permitted by the rules of the Association.

The matter will now be considered by the County Manager (Mr. D. O'Keefe).

LIMERICK DIOCESE

CLERICAL APPOINTMENTS

The Lord Bishop, Most Rev. Dr. Keane, has made the following appointments:—Right Rev. Monsignor P. O'Neill, D.D., P.P., V.G., Bruff, to P.P., St. Munchin's; Rev. David Riordan, P.P., Kilmee, to be P.P., Bruff, and Vicar Forane and Canon of the Cathedral Chapter; Rev. Robert Dunworth, P.P., Cappagh, to be P.P., Kilmee; Rev. Denis O'Donnell, C.C., Bruree, to be P.P., Cappagh, and Rev. P. G. Ryan, C.C., St. Munchin's, to be C.C., Bruree.

MISTRESSES AND MAIDS

"If an employee breaks a contract with an employer without reason and notice, the employer is entitled to damages, a thing that was not at all appreciated by maids," declared District Justice Gleeson at Ennis on Friday, when dismissing an action by Christina Clune, a domestic servant, who sued Katherine Quinlivan, Ballyroughan, Quin, for wages alleged to be due. The Justice said there must be some common sense between employers and employees. The employer was not bound to do everything. Here was a case where the girl left her employment without any reason. She said she went home with a bad cold, yet she went to a dance that night—maybe to cure it—and came back in a few days looking for her wages. If an employer dismissed an employee without cause and notice the employee was entitled to damages, but if the employee broke her contract the reverse applied. The plaintiff in this case was entitled to nothing.

DEATH OF MR. F. J. ORGAN

We regret to announce the death of Mr. Francis J. Organ, 30 Prospect Villas, Limerick, which occurred in Barrington's Hospital in the early hours of Sunday morning. Deceased was a respected member of the Limerick Branch of the Typographical Association and had been for a long number of years employed in Messrs. McKern's on the composing staff. Prior to taking up work in the latter office, he had been employed in the "Limerick Leader" and "Munster News," amongst the managements and staffs of which he was held in affectionate regard because of his very easy-going and lovable disposition. The funeral took place to Mount St. Lawrence Cemetery this afternoon at 3 o'clock and was largely attended. We join with his many friends and acquaintances in tendering sympathy to his bereaved widow.

POOLED DELIVERIES TO END

The pooled deliveries of goods by shops and stores in London can end on April 1st. This decision has been made by the British Ministry of Transport consequent on the improvement in petrol stocks.

RE-VALUATION OF GALWAY.

Galway Corporation asked the County Manager to take steps to secure a complete re-valuation of the city.

SIX YEARS ON PAPAL THRONE

The Holy Father, on Friday last, observed his 69th birthday on the sixth anniversary of his election as Pope. There was no ceremony.

merchants, St. Alphonsus Street, Limerick, alleging that this amount was a debt due by the defendants to plaintiff for holiday money in lieu of annual leave, to which plaintiff was entitled in respect of his employment with defendants, and sued for pursuant to the Provision of Holidays (Employees) Act, 1939.

Mr. Martin Tynan, solr., appeared for the plaintiff, and Mr. A. J. Blood-Smyth, solr., for the defendants.

Plaintiff said that he entered into the employment of the defendant company on the 20th April, 1942. He was employed hauling logs from a wood, for which purpose witness provided his own horse. There were five men employed on the work and witness came under the authority of a foreman, who checked on his hours, etc. Witness was paid £3 1s. 5d. a week at first, paying 1/5 for his Unemployment and National Health stamps. Subsequently, witness got an increase in pay, bringing it up to £3 6s. a week. In August, 1943, witness was employed for three weeks on a tonnage basis but reverted to the former conditions of employment at the end of that time. Witness was employed by the defendants up to October, 1943. All the time he was with them he was under the control of the foreman. He got no holidays from the firm and was not paid in lieu of them.

Cross-examined, witness agreed that the rate of pay was 10/- a day and later 10/10 a day. He denied that he could work when he pleased, or that he was paid by the day. Witness sent his son as substitute for him on a couple of occasions.

Re-examined, witness said he was paid by the week.

Justice—He could be paid weekly and yet the rate of pay could be by the day.

SOLICITOR'S SUBMISSION.

Mr. Blood-Smyth said he would hold that the plaintiff was a subcontractor and not an employee of the defendants. He was not an employee for the purpose of trade union statutes or bonus orders.

Hugh McMahon, a member of the defendant company, said plaintiff's rate of pay was by the day but for convenience the foreman made the payments weekly. There was no obligation on the plaintiff to work ever day and on some occasions he worked only two days a week.

To Mr. Tynan, witness said his point was that plaintiff had a daily contract and was not a permanent employee.

The Justice said he was satisfied that the plaintiff was paid by the day and on his own admission his son deputised for him, which would show that he was not in the category of a permanent employee. In the circumstances he could not succeed in his claim, which would be dismissed.

Mr. Blood-Smyth said he was instructed not to ask for costs against the plaintiff.

TRESPASS CASE.

Thomas J. O'Dea, Milltown, Kiltelly, Pallasgreen, sued Ellen Ryan and her sister, Mary O'Shea, of Wonderhill, Kiltelly, for £10 for alleged trespass.

Messrs. Bennett and Walsh, solicitors, appeared for the plaintiff, and Mr. D. B. Fitzgerald, solr., for the defendant.

Plaintiff gave particulars of trespass, which, he said, was committed by cows, donkeys and goats in 1944. Witness's holding was across the road from defendants', who used actually drive their animals on to his lands.

Defendants' case was that the trespass was due to the fences on plaintiff's side being in poor condition.

The Justice said he would accept plaintiff's evidence and give a decree for £5, with 10/- expenses.

LECTURE ON LIBERIA

A very interesting talk in the nature of a description of "Life in Liberia" was given by Rev. Father Hughes at the Parochial Hall, Emly. Father Hughes' lecture was illustrated by lantern slides and accompanied by community singing at intervals. The use of the lantern slides enabled the very large crowd present to follow the lecture, which dealt vividly with the work of our priests in non-Christian countries. The proceeds are intended for the Foreign Mission Fund.

MOUNTJOY STAFF INCREASED

The warden staff in Mountjoy Prison is being increased. Within the past few weeks four or five men with Army experience—mainly as military police—have been recruited and a further four may be added soon. Prior to the recent additions the warden staff numbered about eighty.

LIMERICK MUNICIPAL DINNERS

Total number of meals served during the months of January and February, 1945:—13,448.

Front state that the American Ninth Army has captured the western end of the Admiral Scheer Bridge spanning the Rhine, in the vicinity of Duisberg and Hamburg.

The message adds that it would be premature to say that preparations are being made to cross the Rhine by means of this bridge.

The German Radio announced this afternoon that an attempt by the Americans to cross the Rhine bridge at Duisberg was foiled by the Germans.

Another Berlin Radio message says that the Americans, under cover of artificial fog, have rushed up thousands of rubber dingies 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 factories, 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 damage. 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

At 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 sub-tenants.

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 sublet 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, therefore, was not a properly-constituted 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 last home ten years ago. Both his grandfathers were Mayors of Clonmel.

CIVIL BILL COURT

At Limerick Civil Bill Court to-day, District Justice Flood stated that as April 2nd will be Easter Monday the sitting of the Court next month will be held on April 9th.

Bishop, Most Rev. Dr. Keane, created him a member of the Cathedral Chapter. When his Lordship called upon Dr. O'Neill to sever his official connection with Maynooth and to enter upon the Ministry as Parish Priest of Bruff he was raised to the dignity of Vicar-General.

OUR GAS SUPPLY.

The renovation works in progress for some time at the City Gas undertaking are now nearing completion and the management is hopeful of giving to consumers a round-of-the-clock service as from 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. Recently 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.

PIC-NICING.

Believe it or not, pic-nicing parties are already on the move. Yesterday groups of young people, carrying the necessary tables and cooking utensils, could be 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 Corporation concerned, on his own motion, withdrew the charge and 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. Mr. Meghen has been in consultation with the Department, the Acting City Manager (Mr. M. F. Donnellan) and the Clare Commissioner (Mr. D. O'Keefe) with a view to securing joint action. His efforts in this direction have met with a large measure of success and 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'Connell Street, Ennis, a motor car driven by Mr. T. Cassidy came into collision with a horse float as a result of which the horse was knocked to the ground and a shaft of the float was broken. The horse escaped uninjured. A few hours later a wheaten terrier, the property of Mr. S. Honan, O'Connell Street, was run over by a turf lorry and killed instantly.