

GAS REDUCED

Important Report

being carried out. When this is included there will be an estimated loss of about £500 on the year's working.

Four retorts were reset in 1943 at a cost of £1,489, two more were reset in December, 1944, and the four remaining retorts are being reset at present. The total cost of this work will amount to about £8,989, of which about £2,500 is still outstanding. The City Manager entered into negotiations with the Local Government Department in September, 1942, regarding proposed repairs to retorts and eventually arranged that the cost of this work should be met by raising a loan as per letter of sanction from the Minister for Local Government, refs. L22485/5/42; C.B. Luimnighe, (Pg.) dated the 16th November, 1942. The proposals at that time envisaged a much bigger job than was subsequently done, and sanction was obtained for a loan of £13,000 to be repaid in five years. None of this loan has yet been taken up, and I suggest that as the repairs are a proper charge against revenue, the cost of same should now be fully met out of this year's accounts. To do this, it may be necessary to temporarily increase our overdraft, and as a result the latter may not be completely cleared off by the 31st March, 1946, in accordance with the instructions of the Minister for Local Government, as contained in his letter of sanction refs. L4415/43 C.B. Luimnighe (Pg.), dated February, 1943. In such an event it would be necessary to apply for sanction to have the time for repayment extended for a further short period.

"I make this suggestion because, in my opinion, the useful life of the carbonizing plant is only about another three years, after which it will have to be completely reconstructed. Sanction for the loan was given on condition that it would be repaid in five years, but at that time the finances of the undertaking were such that it was realized that special treatment was necessary, and it was evidently with great reluctance that the Minister agreed to extend the period of repayment from two years to five years. In the circumstances, if you agree to this suggestion, it may be necessary to obtain the approval of the Local Government Department to transfer this charge from loan to overdraft account.

"There is a surcharge of £8,206 outstanding in our accounts for the year ending the 31st March, 1944, in respect of gas supplied below the declared calorific value for that year. Since then the calorific value of the gas supplied has been in excess of the declared calorific value; therefore, there is no further liability under this heading.

"Under Section 9 (4) of the Gas Regulation Act, 1920, our liability to the consumers for the above amount may be discharged by giving a reduction in the price of gas, and applying same as repayment of the amount due. I recommend that a reduction of 20 per cent. be made in the price of gas, plus the usual scale of discounts, as from 1st April, 1945, in accordance with Section 9 (4) of the Gas Regulations Act, 1920, above quoted.

"I further recommend that the 20 per cent. reduction be permanently maintained after the surcharge is repaid. This would represent a total estimated reduction of £13,045 for the year 1945-46, and a net reduction of £4,839 on gas alone after the £8,206 has been repaid. In addition, I recommend that the price of coke be reduced by 11 per cent. as from 1st April, 1945.

"You will observe from the enclosed estimate that after these reductions have been made, the estimated profit on the year's working would be £5,992. This, however, includes about £3,000 non-recurring profit from tar.

"The estimate is based on the assumption that 7,200 tons of coal, of at least as good quality as is now being used, will be available. The estimated yield of gas and residual per ton of coal is based on that obtained during part of December and January, when the whole of the carbonizing plant was working. From recent experience, and anticipating improved results from the proposed

A GREAT BISHOP PASSES

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 3)

His dislike for public appearances, due to innate modesty and shyness, was deep-rooted, and he preferred that all his labours should remain hidden from public eyes.

When the occasion merited it the late Bishop could and did express himself emphatically on public issues. He appeared at the public meeting in the Town Hall in 1936 to protest against the proposal to scrap the voluntary hospitals, and in 1942 he was again present at a public meeting to raise his voice in support of the campaign to grow more food.

ABIDING INTEREST IN THE POOR.

He took a deep and abiding interest in the welfare of the poor and seldom failed to attend the general meetings of the St. Vincent de Paul Society or the Fuel and Blanket Fund, where his aid in a very practical form was enhanced by strong appeals for help to the better-off citizens on behalf of the poor.

Temperance was another virtue of which his Lordship was a strong advocate. He made it a special duty to be present each year at the annual meetings of St. Michael's Temperance Society and in administering Confirmation never failed to recommend abstinence from intoxicants to the children. Dr. Keane was almost entirely responsible for the building of St. Michael's Rowing Club, as a very substantial subscription from him made it possible for the Society to undertake this big project.

During his Episcopacy, too, it should be mentioned, three new parochial churches were erected—St. Mary's, Kilmeedy and Janesboro'. The parish church of Shanagolden was reconstructed from the foundation and in the carrying out of all these great works the late Dr. Keane was the guiding force. His loss to the Diocese is well-nigh irreparable, and his memory will live in the hearts of the people for years to come.

Never, robust in health, he sacrificed himself to a patient, untiring, enlightened administration that leaves its best monument in the deep regard of his united clergy and people, united in gratitude and admiration for the example of a life dedicated ever to lofty purpose, a life unspotted by the world.

BISHOP'S LAST MOMENTS.

In the closing stages of his Lordship's illness Father Vernon Russell had celebrated Mass daily in the patient's room. On Sunday morning the Bishop thanked the celebrant and bade him farewell. Father Russell, a native of Limerick, has resided at Milford House since his retirement from Westminster, where he long held the post of Master of the Cathedral Music.

On Sunday morning, too, shortly before he lapsed into unconsciousness, when those present assured the Bishop of his people's prayers, he asked that the children in particular should intercede for him. They will have their last leave-taking of him to-morrow (Thursday) at the Requiem Mass arranged for them at 10 o'clock in the Cathedral.

Rev. Michael Moloney, P.P., St. Patrick's; Rev. P. J. O'Callaghan, Diocesan Secretary; Rev. Father Ephrem, O.F.M. (Guardian); Rev. P. J. O'Regan, C.C.; Mr. J. L. Keane (brother) with Mrs. Keane and family were at the bedside when his Lordship passed away.

REMOVAL OF REMAINS

The remains will be removed this evening at 7.30 o'clock from Milford Nursing Home to St. John's Cathedral via Clare Street, Charlotte Quay, Patrick Street, William Street and Cathedral Place. The funeral procession will be preceded by the clergy of the Diocese and at the Borough boundary at Pennywell the remains will be met by the Mayor and members of the Corporation in their robes of office, Confraternities and Societies and the general public.

A Guard of Honour will be provided by the Catholic Boy Scouts, while a detachment of the L.D.F. will act as an escort. On arrival at the Cathedral the remains will be received by the Dean and Chapter.

On Friday at 12 o'clock solemn

LIMERICK STOCK LIST

TO-DAY'S PRICES.

Government Funds.	
4½ p.c. Third National Loan	109½
3½ p.c. Fourth National Loan	106½
4 p.c. Conversion	109½
4½ p.c. Land Bonds	118½
4 p.c. Exchequer Bonds	109½
3½ p.c. War Loan	105½

Banks.	
Bank of Ireland	145
National Bank	145
Munster and Leinster Bank	145
Coras Iompair 3 p.c. Deb.	139.99
Guinness	139.9
Imperial Tobacco	161/3
Courtaulds	54/11½
Coats	53/-
Dunlop	49.6
Imperial Chemical	39.3

tee to-day adjourned without transacting any business as a mark of respect to the memory of the late Dr. Keane.

The adjournment was moved by the Chairman, Mr. R. M. Cleary, Co.C., who said the late Bishop took a deep interest in the administration of the Institution. He proposed a vote of sympathy with the clergy of the diocese and the relatives on their great loss.

The Mayor, Ald. J. Reidy, T.D., said Dr. Keane was a quiet, retiring Bishop, but he was always an inspiration to public representatives, while his chief ambition was to see everything possible done for the general good of the public administration.

The County Manager (Mr. P. J. Meghen, B.E.) on behalf of the officials, associated himself with the expression of sympathy, which was passed in respectful silence, all members staffing.

A special meeting of the City Council will be held this evening at 6.45 for the purpose of expressing sympathy on the death of the Lord Bishop.

TRIBUTE BY DISTRICT JUSTICE FLOOD.

Before proceeding with the business of the City Liberties Court this morning, Mr. J. M. Flood, B.L., D.J., said that he wished to give expression to the sorrow felt by them all at the announcement of the death of their beloved Bishop, the Most Rev. Dr. Keane. In the discharge of the duties of his sacred office, Dr. Keane had won the respect and, he might say, the affection of all who knew him. He was always gentle and approachable, often showing a touch of kindly humour, which endeared him to all with whom he was brought in contact. Although he never put himself forward, he was ever active and solicitous regarding the spiritual and temporal interests of his flock. It was sad that within twelve months of the time when they were all joyfully celebrating his twentieth year in the episcopacy they should be witnessing the sadness of his obsequies. He would have the prayers of the many who owed so much to his help and guidance and their sincere hope that he was gone to the reward and zealous service, both as priest and bishop, had earned for him. May he rest in peace.

Mr. Gaffney, solicitor, on behalf of the legal profession, and on his own behalf, associated himself with the expression of sympathy, as did also Supt. J. Dunning on behalf of the Garda Síochána.

TELEGRAMS FROM ALL PARTS.

Telegrams of sympathy from all parts of the country were received at the Palace, Corbally, during the day. Amongst the senders were: The Archbishop of Cashel, Most Rev. Dr. Harty; the Archbishop of Dublin, Most Rev. Dr. McQuaid; the Bishop of Galway, Most Rev. Dr. Browne; the Bishop of Ross, the Most Rev. Dr. Moynihan; and the Bishop of Elphin; the Archbishop of Tuam; the Bishops of Killarney, Cork, Cloyne, Ardagh, Kilmory, Raphoe, Clonfert, Waterford, Meath and Thasos; the Abbot of Mount Mellifont and New Mellifont; the Provincials of the following Orders—Passionist, Holy Ghost, Carmelites and Jesuits; the Reverend the O'Connor Don, S.J.; the Commissioner of the Garda Síochána; Judge Barra O Briain.

ARCH-CONFRATERNITY.

There will be no meeting for St. Clement's Division of the Arch-Confraternity of the Holy Family to-night. The members of the three Divisions will assemble at Pennywell and be ready at 7.30 to

Things That Matter

To suggest that one could be in Dublin ten minutes after leaving Limerick is to say something that on the face of it looks quite fantastic. Yet it is one of the actual possibilities of a future that is by no means very distant. For short trips of that kind, of course, such a prodigious rate of speed may not be decided upon but that it could be there seems no doubt.

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The development of aircraft has already reached the stage that almost throws the imaginary journeyings by the magic carpet into the shade. It is to be remembered, too, that the startling progress made up to this in the sphere of air travel and transit is probably tame by comparison with what is yet to come. This, at any rate, is the natural conclusion to be drawn from the wonderful advances made in aviation in recent years and from what the experts tell us to expect from this on.

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Speaking in London on Saturday, Mr. Lennox-Boyd, Parliamentary Secretary to the British Ministry of Aircraft Production, stated that the British were on the verge of designing aircraft that will travel faster than sound, attaining a speed of over 700 miles an hour. The only way we can form anything like a true idea of what this means is to estimate how long it would take us at this staggering rate of travel to go from one centre to another of our own country. We can see, for instance, that we could "streak" from this city by the Shannon direct to the metropolis in ten minutes or so—about the time it would take one to walk the length of O'Connell Street!

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The Shannon, by the way, is destined to play a very big and important part in the future of international aviation. This has been evident for several years but special emphasis has been added to the fact by the agreement recently signed by the American and Irish Governments regarding the Foynes airport. What the pact means was the subject of a question in the British House of Commons recently. The information given in reply was in some vital aspects inaccurate, for it gave the impression that the agreement is much less favourable to this country than it is. The terms signed on behalf of the two Governments make it quite clear that Ireland is to be a place of great importance in the matter of air communication between the Old world and the New.

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Foynes was selected origin-