

under the use of apparatus or equipment.

USE OF APPARATUS OR EQUIPMENT.

Under the heading surf rescue is included the use of apparatus or equipment. It is called surf rescue because it is mostly used at the seashore in rescuing from dangerous surfs, but the name can also apply to the use of apparatus anywhere, for instance, in lakes or rivers or from piers or docks.

It is proposed in the scheme to give instruction in each of these three sections, not by way of competing with kindred bodies, but as integral parts of water safety. Classes have already started and tests will be held shortly for certificates of the Society.

For the present we are only concerning ourselves with swimming rescue and for instruction purposes we are using the handbook of the American Red Cross, until such time as our own manual, which is in the course of preparation, is published.

FOUR MAIN PARTS.

The following extract from this new manual, will give an idea of what is included under the heading "Swimming Rescue":—

"The subject of swimming rescue covers the period from the moment a victim is observed in difficulties until he is landed safely on shore and receiving resuscitation treatment. It is divided into four main parts: approach, carry, release and resuscitation, which include methods to cover all the varying circumstances that are likely to arise in near-drowning accidents.

"The first principle of approach is that it should enable the rescue to be effected with the minimum of risk to the rescuer.

"(a) Rear approach—Whenever possible the rear approach should be employed, as from this position the rescuer can secure full control of the patient without risk of the 'drowning man's grip.'

"Rescuer swims up behind patient, and treading water, seizes the chin in his cupped hand forcing back the head. This brings the body to a level or floating position and ready for the next stage—carrying.

GRADING OF CERTIFICATES.

Details of the different certificates of efficiency and the syllabus of the tests or examinations are also given in the handbook. The grading of the certificates is as follows:—

Elementary, junior swimming rescue, intermediate swimming rescue, senior swimming rescue, instructor, advanced swimming rescue, certificate of merit and diploma in surf rescue.

This article is of necessity brief, but it should be sufficient to give an idea of the lines of action to be followed, in this, the latest sphere of activity of the Irish Red Cross. Few of our towns or villages are at any great distance from the sea, lakes or rivers, and the scarcity of swimming pools in the country points out the great and urgent need for this new development. It is hoped to operate the scheme through the personnel of the divisions and branches, as well as through swimming clubs throughout the country.

TO IMPROVE COUNTY CLARE ROADS

Four temporary engineers have been engaged for the past year in County Clare preparing plans for the improvement of the roads there. Some months ago they submitted proposals in respect of 31 roads, involving an estimated expenditure of £120,000, but, in compliance with a direction from the Local Govern-

postponed owing to a dispute.

DEATH OF MR. M. C. KEATING

It is with deepest regret that we announce the death of Mr. Maurice C. Keating, 23 Charlotte Quay, Limerick, which took place at his residence on Saturday morning last, after a protracted illness.

Deceased, who was of a gentle and retiring disposition, was second son of the late Mr. C. Keating, ex-Sergt. R.I.C., and of Mrs. Ellen Keating. Prior to his illness he was employed at the Limerick Steamship Co., Ltd., as chief shipping clerk for the North German Lloyd line, and while there he made a host of friends. Before his death he was fortified by the Rites of Holy Church. Sincerest sympathy is extended to his bereaved mother, brother and sister on this, their double bereavement, as three weeks ago his sister, Kitty, passed away rather unexpectedly.

The remains were removed to St. John's Cathedral, on Saturday evening last. The funeral, which took place to-day, after Solemn Requiem Mass, to Mount St. Lawrence Cemetery, was followed by a large and representative gathering, which testified to the esteem enjoyed by the deceased and his family.

The chief mourners were:—Mrs. Ellen Keating (mother), Mr. P. Keating (brother) and Miss T. Keating (sister).

The priests in attendance were:—Rev. Fr. Brassil, Adm., St. John's; Rev. Fr. Culhane, C.C., do.; Rev. Fr. Creed, C.C., do.; Rev. Fr. Fee, C.C., do.; Rev. Fr. White, C.C., St. Michael's. Rev. Fr. Brassill, officiated at the graveside.

LIMERICK'S GOOD BILL OF HEALTH

There has been a satisfactory, if seasonal, decrease in the incidence of infectious disease in the city during the month of July. Four cases of diphtheria, three of typhoid, and 13 of scabies made up the total. The outbreak of scabies, which continued for several months, and at one stage reached the figure of 90 cases in a month, is now under control, and the provision of appropriate treatment is having its effect. At the new clinic, almost 400 persons received treatment during the month, including 19 complete families, numbering 86 individuals. Excellent work continues to be done in respect of diphtheria immunisation, and the fact that only four recent cases were notified testifies to the efficiency of the scheme.

DEATH.

O'FLAHERTY—On August 13th, 1945, at the Bedford Row Hospital, Limerick, Mrs. O'Flaherty (nee McDonogh), 14, Upper Denmark Street, Limerick. R.I.P. Remains will be removed this (Monday) evening at 8.30 to St. Michael's Church. Funeral to Mount St. Lawrence Cemetery to-morrow (Tuesday) at 3.30.

MASS NOTICE.

Amalgamated Pork Butchers' Society—The annual Mass in honour of Our Lady will be celebrated in the Dominican Church on Wednesday next, August 15th, at 10 o'clock. All members are requested to be present.

IN MEMORIAM

line would definitely receive consideration as part of their post-war planning schemes for the development of transport generally in the Twenty-Six Counties. In addition, he promised another discussion with the representatives of the Harbour Board at a future date.

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All this is very satisfactory so far as it goes. It is an encouragement to keep up and increase pressure with a view to securing the desired facility. What is really at stake is the future of the city and the extensive and important area of which it is the natural distributing centre. All public bodies and organisations having an interest in the welfare of either one or the other, or both, should throw the full weight of their influence behind the effort to secure the direct linking up of the docks with the railway system.

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It is beyond doubt that this city lost many valuable opportunities through not having a railway connection with the docks. People interested in factory projects made inquiries from time to time as to sites here, but did not proceed further when they learned that there was no rail extension to the waterside. Many existing firms and factories are adversely affected, too, through not having a link line, the absence of which is a hindrance to commercial and industrial expansion and, therefore, to the sound growth of employment.

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An important letter bearing on this subject was read at the last meeting of the Harbour Board. It was from Mr. J. Plunkett Dillon, Chairman of Irish Wire Products, Ltd., who pointed out that he could personally state that "other industries, such as ours, would have been established in close proximity to your port had essential railway facilities been obtainable, but lack of same necessitated the establishment of such industries elsewhere." This, surely, is a telling argument in favour of the link line, the construction of which would confer many