

In the first place, views and arguments do not become specially logical through the fact that those who put them forward are free to append their names to what they write. On the other hand, it is obviously unfair to deny persons the right to take part in newspaper discussion simply because their official positions or other circumstances make it expedient or incumbent on them to use only a pen-name. A civil servant, for instance, is precluded from engaging openly in controversies in the Press, and yet he may be able to throw a great deal of useful light on a subject under the shelter of a nom-de-plume.

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Many priests can make exceedingly useful contributions to the discussion of public questions debated in the Press. Are they to be denied the opportunity of doing so unless they sign their names and addresses to letters? It is well known that in such matters they have occasionally to keep in the background as a result of diocesan regulations and for other reasons. Surely it is simple justice, as well as in the interests of enlightenment and sound guidance, that they have the option of giving their views anonymously. To refuse them this privilege would be tantamount to a certain degree of tyranny.

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Those who are acquainted with the history of the land agitation in this country will at once understand what the farmers owe to the anonymous correspondence published in the provincial Press of Ireland in support of their claim. They need not be told that in the circumstances of the time no tenant dared to write a letter to the newspapers over his own name in exposure or denunciation of the evils of landlordism. If there were then a rule that no letter was to be published except over the writer's full name and address it is more than doubtful that the victory of the Land League would be as speedy and complete as it was. It may be recalled, incidentally, that for their insertion of such letters and their other support of the land campaign a far bigger proportion of Irish newspaper editors went to jail than of any other class in the community.

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For ourselves, we always prefer for our correspondence

Card room and library free to members. Concert at the Savoy, first Sunday night in December. Annual general meeting, Wednesday, October 23rd, at 8 p.m.

DEAD OVER WASH-TUB

CO. LIMERICK WOMAN'S SEIZURE

Mrs. D. Riordan, Rutagh, Herbertstown, aged 60 years, was found dead in her home at Rutagh on Friday evening of last week (writes our Hospital correspondent). It appears that the deceased woman was attending to some domestic duties in the kitchen of her home when the fatal seizure occurred. She was found lying over a wash-tub in the kitchen by children on their way home from school. Medical aid was immediately summoned but life was declared extinct. There was no one in the house with the deceased at the time she was taken ill except three children, who were all under 4 years of age.

The late Mrs. Riordan, who was a native of Ballyphillip, Killeely, was very popular in the district and her sudden and unexpected death came as a shock to her relatives and friends. Her remains were removed to Herbertstown Parish Church on Saturday evening and the funeral took place on Sunday to Ballinalough Cemetery, where the interment was made in the presence of a large gathering of mourners, friends and sympathisers.

The chief mourners were:—Mr. Daniel Riordan (husband); Patrick, John, Denis, Danny and Timothy (sons); Mary, Nora, Ellie, May, Maggie and Teresa (daughters).

CHILD DROWNED

IN BARREL OF WATER

A drowning tragedy, in which a 2½ years-old boy was the victim, occurred at Lurriga, in the vicinity of Patrickswell, County Limerick, on Thursday evening of last week. Son of Mr. and Mrs. Michael O'Kelly, popularly known in the locality, the boy, apparently, had been playing at a barrel of water, which was sunk in the ground and used as a calves' trough. On going to milk cows, the maid observed a shoe of the child floating on the water in the barrel, and on closer examination she found that the boy had toppled into the water. When she took him from it, life was extinct.

An inquest, with a jury, was held by Dr. John P. Clery, Coroner for the area, in the Patrickswell Garda Barracks, on the same night. It was stated that the child's body showed no marks of violence and it was not deemed necessary to hold a post-mortem examination.

Returning a verdict, in accordance with the medical testimony, that the child died as a result of immersion in water, and attaching no blame to anyone, the Coroner, Gardai Authorities, and foreman of the jury, expressed their deep sympathy with the bereaved parents.

TRANSFER OF POPULAR OFFICIAL

The departure of Mr. Lync, Inspector under the Department of Agriculture, who has worked zealously for many years in the Scariff area, is deeply regretted (writes our Killaloe correspondent). He was a very capable official and in his spare time devoted himself to the revival of the Irish language and to everything Irish and national.

ted that he had a previous record. He attributed his downfall to drink. On the day of the offence he had been offered a job, on which he was to start duty next day, and had started drinking. In the evening he went into Mrs. O'Dwyer's cafe "for a feed" and, seeing the coat in the hall on his way out, he took it on impulse. He promised to take the pledge from liquor if given this chance. He said the job which he had been offered on the day of the theft still held. He produced an unstamped employment insurance book.

The Justice said the insurance book proved nothing. "Are you trying to put one across on me as you did on the owner of the coat?" he asked.

The defendant replied that he was quite honest. The foreman of the job had promised to hold it for him.

"VERY PLAUSIBLE." Justice—People who do these things are, like you, invariably very plausible. I like to believe everybody in this Court, whether they be solicitors, Guards, or men down there in the dock.

Replying to the Justice, Supt. Colleran said the defendant had originally lived in Limerick but later left with his father. Curtain had been charged on several occasions in the Limerick Court for larcenies of various articles; the greatest of these charges had been one of housebreaking and larceny, involving a sum of £29 odd. Since he left Limerick he had been charged in the Circuit Court in Mullingar, had been convicted and had been sentenced to two years imprisonment.

The defendant again appealed for "another chance" and, on his undertaking to secure one independent bail of £10 with his own personal bail of the same amount, the Justice adjourned the case for six months.

MURDER CHARGE

DATES FOR HEARING FIXED

When Daniel Joseph Duff, a member of the Garda Siochana, Pallasgreen, appeared at Limerick District Court, before Mr. J. M. Flood, B.L., D.J., to-day, charged with the murder, by shooting, of Garda Jas. Byrne, at Mount Catherine, Pallasgreen, on September 25th last,

Mr. Maurice Power (State Solicitor's Office) told the Justice that Gardai investigations in the case had now been completed, and he asked that the hearing of evidence should commence on Monday morning next. The State had twenty witnesses, and the hearing in the District Court would take about three days.

Supt. Dunning also appeared in court and supported Mr. Power's statement.

Mr. Martin Tynan, solicitor, who is defending Duff, agreed with this arrangement and, after Detective Sergeant Murphy had made a formal deposition asking for a remand of accused in custody until Monday morning, the Justice fixed Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday next for hearing of the charge against accused.

Duff, who was escorted into the court as soon as Mr. Power began speaking, stood near the door between two plain clothes Gardai. He appeared to be at ease, and left immediately after the Justice's announcement regarding the arrangements for his trial in the District Court.

GUEST IN NEW YORK

LIMERICK PRIEST ON WAY TO AUSTRALIA

TRAIN SERVICE

LIMERICK-KERRY LINE

The pre-war train service on the Limerick-Kerry line, which was discontinued in 1941, will be restored as from Monday, 4th November.

We have been officially informed that C.I.E. has now completed all arrangements for the inauguration of the extended service between Limerick and Tralee on and from the date mentioned, when two trains will run in each direction daily, one in the morning and one in the evening.

The outward morning train from the city for Tralee will leave at 8.45 o'clock and the evening train at 5.15 o'clock.

The inward morning train from Tralee to Limerick will leave Tralee at 7.45 o'clock, and the evening train at 4.40.

Both inward and outward trains will halt at all intermediate stations.

The augmented train service will not in any way interfere with the improved bus facilities, which will be continued.

WEATHER FORECASTS

(To the Editor, "Limerick Leader.")

Dear Sir—Your paragraph under the caption, "Weather Forecast," in the Town Topics column of the "Leader" of the 16th inst., resurrects another of those strange bird phenomena of more, or less, interest, according to one's flair for such.

What are we to say, however, of the established science (or is it?) of meteorology which is looming so large in the popular imagination nowadays, even in our own country, in the light of the following news item culled from the German language publication, Die Neue Zeitung, published under the auspices of the American Occupation Authorities, occasional copies of which are received here:—

"For their annual outing to Kansas City this year, some of the most prominent and experienced members of the American meteorological fraternity forecast the most ideal, sunny day for this pleasant event. It rained cats and dogs."

I am, sir, yours very sincerely,
ALPHONSUS HOBBS,
11 Cecil St., 16/10/46.

A NUREMBERG SCARE

Despite the publicity given to the last minute scenes by eye witness at the executions of the Nazi leaders, wild rumours were current in Nuremberg yester, that none of the Nazis had been hanged. Based on the theory that the Allies could not agree at the trial, sympathisers of the sentenced men declared "they had to go on with it, so as not to make fools of themselves, and they hanged only straw dummies."

POLICEMAN SHOT

A British police inspector in Palestine fell mortally wounded as a result of a shooting affray which occurred in a Jewish settlement of Palestine last night. The inspector was not on duty at the time.

Further tension was raised, in that country when a military lorry was ambushed on the road between Tel Eviv and Haifa. Three soldiers were injured.

NATIONAL T.B. SERVICES

A meeting of the Post Sanatoria League in Dublin on Wednesday night passed a resolution calling on the Department of Local Government and Public Health to ensure tuberculosis services on a nationwide basis, the provision by the State of ample allowances and