

Sir—It is reported that several prominent Limerick citizens went "hat-in-hand" to one paid official of the E.S.B. in Dublin in order to ask for a reduction of the present exorbitant charges for electricity in Limerick.

Is not the E.S.B. there to serve the people? Should not the one paid official of the E.S.B. be made to come to Limerick to investigate a serious complaint of overcharging in the third largest centre of the State?

By going to Dublin you put yourself at a disadvantage. You become "the small fellow." This trekking of deputations to Dublin with this, that and the other complaint or petition should be stopped. High officials or Ministers should be compelled to come "down the country" that provides their livelihood.

To revert to this matter of the E.S.B., the best and quickest way to secure Government intervention where a Government-coddled company overcharges is to refuse to pay the company. In this case the consumers could pay their bills into a combined suspense account in one of the banks. Let the E.S.B. threaten to cut off the entire city and then the Government will have to take action and have us put on a par with Dublin and Cork. Nothing else should be accepted. For years we have paid too much. Yours faithfully,

"CURRENT TOPIC."

PASSING OF AN OLD GAEL

The death of Mr. John M. Broderick, of Purl, Abbeyfeale, which occurred in his 82nd year, leaves now only two surviving members of the old Father Casey famous football team which won some of the County Cups of the G.A.A. in the old days (writes our Abbeyfeale correspondent). The deceased was a well known and popular farmer of a retiring, kindly disposition, who retained the respect and esteem of many friends and relatives to the end. There was a very large attendance of the public at the funeral and interment. The prayers at the graveside in the old Abbey Cemetery were read by the Very Rev. P. Canon Carroll, P.P., V.F.; Rev. J. Halpin, C.C., and Rev. J. Liston, C.C.

KILLED BY ELECTRIC DRILL

While using an electric drill repairing a motor car in his father's garage, 28 year old Michael O'Mahony, Ennistymon, was injured by a current passing through him and died. He was son of Mr. Michael O'Mahony, garage proprietor, Ennistymon.

brought to a field in New Pallas. Witness had a horse at one time which broke a bone in the knee and it raced again.

Cross-examined — Witness said that the fracture complained of in the present animal was now healed up and the leg was definitely not swinging. After the plaster of paris had been taken off, several elasto bandages were put on the mare's leg.

To Mr. Leahy—Witness said that he had carried out the instructions of two veterinary surgeons to the best of his ability.

NOW ABLE TO GALLOP.

Patrick A. Carroll, V.S., said he was the official V.S. to the Limerick Junction Race Company and there was no question of destroying the animal when it was injured in May. He had come to the conclusion that it was better to put the animal out in the open after the early treatment. When he went to see the animal about ten days ago, he was not able to catch her and she was galloping on all four legs. The animal was slightly lame now but there was no pain. The sore would have been caused by the animal lying down in her stable. He was satisfied that the mare got the correct treatment.

Henry V. O'Brien, V.S., also gave evidence of seeing the mare after the injury, and it was his opinion that the mare would suffer for a time, but that suffering would be limited. When he saw the animal recently she was galloping and seemed to be enjoying life. He considered that the treatment given was eminently successful.

Cross-examined — Witness said that he never treated the animal, but he would expect the mare's leg to be "swinging" in September as it would not have recovered full power then.

The Justice, in the course of his summing up, said it was plain from the evidence that the defendant relied on his two veterinary surgeons to look after the animal in order to avoid suffering; and if suffering had been caused it was they and not the defendant who should be before the Court. He was satisfied on the facts given in the case, but these did not cause one to arrive at the conclusion that Dr. Humphreys was guilty of causing unnecessary suffering, and so he would have to dismiss the prosecution on the merits.

The defendant was allowed 4 gns. costs.

BROADFORD DRAMATIC CLASS

The members of the Broadford Dramatic Class are at the moment rehearsing a play, "There is a Destiny," which it is expected will be ready for production shortly after Christmas. The proceeds go in aid of the Broadford Pipers' Band.

TO BEAUTIFY VILLAGE

At a well attended meeting of the inhabitants of Tuamgraney, held last week (writes our Killaloe correspondent), Rev. J. A. O'Brien made a strong appeal for co-operation in the noble work of beautifying their village—a village which everyone of them should be proud of, as there were few places with such a Catholic and historic background. It was his one great desire to see the green planted and railed or walled in. He advocated voluntary labour and trusted that all would generously subscribe and help to make Tuamgraney one of the prettiest villages in Ireland.

Father O'Brien expressed his regret at the disfiguring and destruction of public property and appealed to the law-abiding people of the district to check the irresponsible evildoers.

A representative committee was formed and the Rev. Father O'Brien was unanimously appointed Chairman.

WAGE INCREASES FOR C.I.E. WORKERS

About 14,000 C.I.E. rail and road workers, including Dublin bus and tram men, are to be paid the wage increases recommended recently by the Labour Court and the C.I.E. Joint Industrial Council. The increases will be retrospective to August 21st for bus workers and to September 1st for railway workers. It is expected they will be paid before Christmas.

FINED £578—YEAR IN JAIL AS ALTERNATIVE

Audrey Joy Smith, Birkenhead, a professional dancer, was fined a total of £578 in Dublin yesterday on charges of smuggling, with the alternative of a year in jail. She had been taken off the Liverpool boat at the North Wall by a Customs Officer five weeks ago.

DIED ON WAY HOME FOR CHRISTMAS

Miss Mary O'Shea, of 210 96th Street, New York, who for twenty-three years had looked forward to spending Christmas with her 80-year-old mother, Mrs. Bridget O'Shea, in Cahirciveen, Co. Kerry, died on board the liner "America" when it was only one day out from Cobh.

COCKATOO AGED 67

The exhibits at a cage bird show in London included an Australian cockatoo aged 67 years. It was the property of a Brighton woman.