

with this policy. I know that recent, nationally-minded people in this country sighed with relief at the Republic of Ireland Act passed unanimously by the Dail and when the All-Party Committee was set up in the Dail. I have no wish to create a split in the ranks of the Fianna Fail Party and would prefer to see a united Fianna Fail Party co-operating with the rest of the parties in the country for the undoing of the situation."

REPLY TO MR. BOLAND,

Referring to Mr. Boland's statement that some of the Fianna Fail supporters were asking:— "How much longer are we to put up with this so-called 'Government'?" Mr. MacBride said that the Fianna Fail supporters' voices were heard clearly and unequivocally, Mr. Boland and those who expressed similar views would be taken to represent the viewpoint of Fianna Fail.

The policy of Britain in the past, continued, had always been to oppress the Irish people, and to a certain extent that policy had been successful and had weakened the task of responsible Ministers in all parties must be to give the people, so as to give strength and enthusiasm.

There was no real difference of opinion between the different political parties, on the unity and sovereignty of the Republic of Ireland.

All parties were pledged to the maintenance of the territorial integrity of Ireland, and there was no reason why they should not co-operate fully together in achieving that goal.

Other speakers were Mr. Timoney (Tipperary); Mr. Breathnach (Dublin), and Mr. Harnett.

RURAL LIGHTING

THE E.S.B. TERMS

Limerick is being fleeced all over by the E.S.B.," explained Mr. K. Dore, solicitor, at a meeting of Limerick Co. Council on Monday last, when he proposed the adoption of the following resolution received from the Wicklow Council:—

"That we disagree with the resolution by the Electricity Supply Board of the terms for the provision of public lighting in rural areas having regard to the extra charges which will be imposed on local authorities in respect of installa-

BADGERS

Foxes and badgers are causing great destruction to poultry yards in the Ballyea district, parish of Ballina (writes our Killaloe correspondent). One man in the townland of Gortlass O'Brien lost quite a number of geese, hens and ducks last week and another a brood of young ducks. Watching the poultry yards is practically a whole-time job for the women folk at the moment. So alarming is the scare that attending dances is out of the question for the boys and girls of the district, who are obliged to give their individual attention by day and by night to their young broods.

Our Knockaderry correspondent writes:—An exceptionally large number of poultry were killed during last week-end by foxes in a farmyard in Upper Grange, Knockaderry.

DEATH OF MR. JOHN LILLIS

The death took place in a Dublin hospital to-day of Mr. John Lillis, Patrickswell, who had been indisposed for some time. The deceased was an extremely popular young man and deepest sympathy is tendered to his widow, two young children, his brother, Mr. P. Lillis, Co.C., and sister, Mrs. O'Neill, Kildimo, in their bereavement. The funeral will pass through Limerick on to-morrow (Thursday) evening, at 6.30 o'clock, for Lurriga Church. The interment will take place at 1 o'clock (old time) on Friday.

FIRE AT CHARLEVILLE

In the early hours of Friday morning, 27th of May, an outbreak of fire was discovered in the bar portion of the Imperial Hotel, Charleville. Portion of the counter, some shop fittings and a quantity of liquor were destroyed. Members of the staff, together with resident guests and local volunteers, in conjunction with the members of the local Fire Brigade, under Captain D. Sheehan, helped to get the outbreak under control within a short time.

GOOD RATE COLLECTION

The average rate collection in Co. Limerick during the financial year

of the city are to be found, in the way places, stones of great historic interest. In this connection a correspondent states that a stone placed at Killeely Cross—and known as the "Mayor's Stone"—marks the scene of a pitched battle between rival factions many years ago. This stone, which bore the name of the then Mayor—James White Fitzjames—has long since disappeared. The view is generally held that all these ancient memorial stones should be collected, before they are lost, to form the nucleus of a sort of open-air museum in one or other of our city parks.

★ THE MAYORALTY.

It can be taken for granted that a contest will take place for the Mayoralty at the special meeting of the Corporation fixed for 25th inst. The names of the following members of the Council are mentioned in connection with the office—Ald. Carew, Mr. G. B. Dillon and Mr. P. J. Cusack. The Mayoral Chain of Limerick, made of links of pure gold, dates back to 1822. It now contains fifty-seven links and weighs four lbs. It is nine feet long and as can be imagined, is one of the most interesting insignia in the country. Each link in the chain added by successive Mayors, contains records of historic events. From the time of the first occupation of the Civic Chair, Adam Sarva in 1197, Limerick has had 60 Mayors. The oldest Mayor to date in office was David Roche. He was aged 81 years. The youngest Mayor was Mr. Wm. J. O'Donnell. He was only 25 years of age when invested with the Chain.

★ ADMIRAL OF SHANNON.

By the Charter of James I., rather voluminous piece of parchment, the Mayor of Limerick was created Admiral of the Shannon from its mouth to three miles above the City. At the time this was a mere nominal office, for it entailed many duties and, let it be added, carried many privileges. The British Navy, we are told, could not operate in the Shannon without the express