

"Six more stockings to fill," said Santa Claus when he called to the City Home, Limerick, and saw the four months old triplet daughters of Mr. and Mrs. M. O'Donoghue, Emly Place, Limerick. Nurse Maura Leddin helped him to distribute his gifts. [LIMERICK LEADER Photo.]

DRAINAGE WORK

BLACK RIVER SCHEME

(To the Editor, "Limerick Leader.")

A Chara—The written word, which cannot be effaced, never fails to bring to the surface the hidden depths of a man's mind. On reading last week's issue of your popular journal this thought struck me very forcibly, when Mr. Cusack, the Bridgetown Fine Gael Secretary, in a letter, stated that there was "a fine type of well paid workers employed on the Black River drainage who would overcome all opposition." Now, I would like to ask him where is the opposition coming from, and are the workers well paid? As regards the "fine type," I wholeheartedly agree, and thank Mr. Cusack for the compliment, on behalf of the Fianna Fail Cumann members employed on the scheme. Does he consider that less than £3 a week is good wages for a worker? Would he like to rear a large family on such a pittance? I once again assert that the County Council and the County Manager are responsible for this scheme, notwithstanding denials. Why was Mr. Cusack's letter re-forwarded from the L.G.D. to the County Council? This fact alone clearly proves my case. As regards my Cumann being inactive for fifteen years, we were busily engaged counteracting the obstructionist methods employed by Fine Gael followers, and, despite this, there was over two miles of the river cleaned. I realise that it is news to the Fine Gael branch to now learn that there were fifty unemployed men in this district last spring. Of course, they were not worried about the working man until, with the help of the Labour Party, they saw a lawyers' paradise develop in the Four Courts. If they visited O'Brien's Bridge on any Tuesday they would have observed the queue at the Garda Station last spring. He states "no farmer could get a man to work." Any farmer who gave a fair wage could get plenty of men, but there are some, even to this day, who would prefer to ask the village school teacher for a few "men." As regards men from Co. Limerick working here, to this Mr. Cusack takes strong exception. Not so the Fianna Fail Cumann; we think they are all neighbours' children, and we wish them good luck and happy employment under a Fianna Fail County Council in "Dev's" own county. I, once more, assert that the Bridgetown Fianna Fail Cumann have striven hard to get this river drained, and we shall not rest at that. The working man is not a pawn in our programme. He is of paramount importance.

Is mise le meas,

ALFRED D. WATTERS,

Secretary, Bridgetown
Fianna Fail Cumann.

LATE MR. T. O'BRIEN

HUGE ATTENDANCES AT OBSEQUIES

The huge attendances at the obsequies of the late Mr. Thomas O'Brien, "Killuran," Shelbourne Avenue, Limerick, bore eloquent evidence of the widespread esteem and popularity enjoyed by the deceased and his highly-respected family and relatives and of the deep sympathy and regret evoked by his demise. The remains were removed from St. John's Hospital to St. Munchin's Church on the evening of Wednesday, 14th inst. On Friday morning, 16th inst., at 11 o'clock, Requiem High Mass was offered up in St. Munchin's Church and the funeral took place immediately afterwards to Mount St. Lawrence Cemetery.

Priests who attended the Requiem High Mass and the funeral were:—Rev. Father McCarthy, C.C., St. Munchin's; Rev. Father Godfrey, C.C., do.; Rev. Father Griffin, C.C., do.; Rev. Father Connolly, C.S.S.R., Director of the Arch-Confraternity; Rev. Father P. K. O'Flynn, O.S.A.; Rev. Father Gabriel, O.F.M.; Rev. Father Aloysius, O.F.M.; Rev. Father Leo, O.F.M.

The chief mourners were:—Mrs. Mary O'Brien (wife), Messrs. Kennedy, Bartholomew, Matthew and Thomas O'Brien (sons), Sister M. Rosarii, Presentation Convent, Warrenmount, Dublin, (daughter), Mr. Kennedy W. O'Brien, Dublin (brother), Mrs. J. Kinnerk, Naas (sister), Mr. Bartholomew O'Brien, Dublin; Mr. Seamus O'Brien, Dublin; Mr. Kennedy O'Brien, do.; Mr. Thomas O'Brien, Carlow, and Mr. J. J. Kinnerk, solicitor, Limerick (nephews), Mrs. P. O'Farrell, Mrs. M. Fitzpatrick and the Misses Kitty, Joan and Terry O'Brien (nieces), Mrs. Kennedy O'Brien, Mrs. Bartholomew O'Brien, Mrs. Matthew O'Brien and Mrs. Thomas O'Brien (daughters-in-law), Sister M. Norbert, Daughters of the Cross, Much Hadham; Mrs. Kennedy O'Brien, Mrs. Michael O'Brien and Mrs. J. O'Sullivan (sisters-in-law), Mr. Matthew McMahon, Killuran, O'Callaghan's Mills; Mr. Frank McMahon, do., and Mr. J. Kinnerk, Naas (brothers-in-law).

So huge was the representative attendances at the removal of the remains and at the funeral that a list of the general public would be absolutely out of the question.

Numerous Mass cards and messages of sympathy were received from all over the country.

WELL ORGANISED

In Co. Kilkenny alone no fewer than 41 Young Farmers' Clubs have been formed. This is the result of fine organising work.

feel that this was the season of goodwill.

A concert was also organised and here again the spirit of Christmas was brought home to the little ones by the singing and dancing of some of our local artistes.

ADDRESS BY CANON RICE,
P.P., V.F.

The visitors to St. Senan's were entertained by the Matron, after which the Very Rev. Canon Rice, Chaplain to the Hospital, conveyed his very sincere thanks to all who helped to bring happiness and comfort to the little patients. A special word of praise, he said, was due to the Matron and staff for all their labours. He had an opportunity during the year of seeing the care and attention they bestowed on their little patients, and nothing could be better done. He would like to associate Dr. McCarthy with what he had said; his interest in the patients was worthy of all praise.

Dr. McCarthy, replying, said he was grateful to Canon Rice for his remarks. He (the doctor) was happy in his work, and the progress made by any child under his care was indeed reward for his labours. He was glad to be in a position to say that he witnessed the continued progress of a large number of the patients, and he would like to mention that thirty of them left the hospital during the year, being on the way to complete recovery. Dr. Browne, the Minister for Health, was helping St. Senan's, and his great interest in the hospital was a source of encouragement. The hospital, re-constructed as it was, left nothing to be desired, and he would like to say how grateful they were to Mr. Pat Sheahan, the architect, and Mr. Gough, the contractor, for the energetic way they carried out the work of turning the building from its original state into the very fine hospital that it is today. The County Council, he would like to mention, had taken a special interest in St. Senan's, and for which they earned all their gratitude. They had now children from Clare, Tipperary, Kerry, Dublin and Waterford.

RED CROSS WILL HELP.

Rev. T. Hurley, S.J., on behalf of the Standing Committee of the Red Cross, thanked Canon Rice for his kind remarks, and said the Society was only too glad to be given an opportunity of doing anything it could to make it possible to have the patients cheerful and happy, and to give them encouragement. He (Father Hurley) would like to join with Canon Rice in paying a well deserved tribute to Dr. McCarthy, and to their very efficient Matron (applause).

Mr. P. Fitzsimons, Co.C., Chairman, Limerick County Committee of Agriculture, also spoke, and said the County Council would continue to help in every way that they could.

Those present included Lady Adare, Rev. Father Cussen, C.C.; Rev. Mr. White, Askeaton; Mr. J. J. Johnson, chairman of the Limerick City Branch; Mr. F. G. O'Reilly, secretary; Rev. Mr. Talbot, Rathkeale, as well as members of the branches of Red Cross from Limerick, Rathkeale, Newcastle West, Foynes, etc.

Make It An Electric Christmas

IDEAL GIFTS