

Local Government. Since 1922 ten thousand houses have been built and nearly completed. Under the Housing and Building Facilities Act, 1924, nearly four thousand houses have been erected by private persons, while under the 1925 Act six hundred dwellings are being undertaken in a similar capacity. This is all to the good, and spells progress, which everyone will welcome. It was stated also that Urban Councils are taking a great interest in the present Act, in respect of which 1,374 proposals have been received. The building line, therefore, looks healthy, and there can be no doubt that if the cost of production is reduced, as it is hoped it soon will be, the country's needs in respect of houses will to a large extent be met year by year in the near future.

DEATH OF MR JOHN PORTLEY.

The death, which we announce with regret, took place at St John's Hospital to-day of Mr John Portley, after an illness of brief duration. The deceased, who was in his sixty-fourth year, was, since the inception of the Local Government Act, 1898, an official of the Limerick County Council, being clerk in the County Surveyors' department. He was a very capable, painstaking, and courteous official, and his genial manner and disposition made him hosts of friends. The late Mr Portley was in early life connected with commercial activities, and was an amateur actor of considerable ability. He was one of the earliest members of the Limerick Amateur Dramatic Society, and in that connection had an intimate knowledge of Gilbert and Sullivan's operas, which formed the repertoire of the Society. He was a fine type of Irishman, and his passing removes from the city one of its most popular and familiar figures.

The remains will be removed to St John's Cathedral at 7 o'clock to-morrow evening, and the interment takes place in Mount St Laurence Cemetery after Requiem Mass in the Cathedral at 11 o'clock on Saturday.

ST. MARY'S CATHEDRAL.

On Sunday next, at the 11 a.m. service, the Bishop will dedicate a memorial tablet to the late Mrs Gelston, placed by her sons in the Cathedral.

INCOME TAX ASSESSMENTS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE LIMERICK CHRONICLE.

DEAR SIR, - Some of the assessments now going out contain mistakes, in nearly all cases involving overcharges.

Persons liable for income tax are, therefore, advised to scrutinize their new assessments with great care, and, if necessary, get explanations or corrections made, and then give notice of appeal if they consider they are still being overcharged. Immediate action is advisable, as the time in which to appeal is only a few weeks.

I am, your, etc,

TAXI.

prospects of the various candidates. A good many votes will still, no doubt, be influenced by the publicity and other electioneering activities of the last few days, but it is now pretty evident that few of the candidates will secure a larger measure of support than Mr P. J. Hooper, B.L., the late Editor of the "Freeman's Journal." Unfortunately, the accident sustained by Mr Hooper in the course of his election tour has had the inevitable effect of curtailing his personal activities in the contest, but, on the other hand, it has stimulated his supporters throughout the country to still more active efforts on his behalf.

Mr Hooper's extensive knowledge of public affairs, his experience as a journalist both at Westminster and in Ireland, and his wide outlook on the questions of the day are recognised as qualifications which eminently fit him for the duties of Senator, and his friends are confident in the belief that he will secure a very high place in the successful list. A factor in his favour has been that he is an independent candidate, owing allegiance to no party or organisation, and consequently in a position to bring his unfettered judgment to bear on all subjects to arise.

THE COAL INQUIRY.

Commissioners' Powers.

The terms of reference of the Coal Commission, published in the "London Gazette," empower the Commissioners to call before them such persons as they consider likely to afford any information on the subject of their inquiry; to call for, and have access to, books, documents, registers and records, and to visit and personally inspect such places as they may deem necessary for their purposes.

The Commissioners are requested to report "with as little delay as possible," and from time to time if they find this expedient.

THE LATE LADY EMLY.

At a meeting of the Joint Committee of Management of the Limerick County Infirmary held on Wednesday, Mr C. Croker, D.C., Chairman, who presided, proposed a resolution expressing deep sympathy with Lord Emlly, for many years a member of the Board, on the lamented death of Lady Emlly.

At the meeting of the Corporation Standing Committees last night, the Mayor presiding, Alderman Heslin proposed, and Mr P. Moore seconded, that the sympathy and condolence of the Council be conveyed to Lord Emlly on the death of his wife, Lady Emlly, who was for many years a useful member of the Limerick Board of Guardians, and an active worker on behalf of charity, especially the ladies' committee of St. Vincent de Paul Society.

The resolution was passed in silence, the Mayor and Town Clerk associating themselves with its terms.

ENNIS FAIR.

Average sized cattle fair, composed chiefly of first and second class shorthorn stock and some lots of Aberdeen-Angus cross-breeds. Small beefers in good condition were in brisk demand; other beasts were neglected, and several lots of heavy beasts remained unsold. Fat beasts were plentiful but sold only at lower prices. Small supply of springers and milch cows; all showing quality were easily sold at high rates. Average show of sheep and lambs. Fat sheep changed hands at lower prices. Steers and lambs were hard to

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