

NOTICE TO ADVERTISERS

In consequence of the earlier departure of the evening trains from Limerick, and the curtailment of the hour for posting to p.m. at the General Post Office, it has been found necessary to issue the editions of the *Chronicle* at an earlier hour than hitherto. Advertisers will, therefore, please note that the latest hour at which advertisements can be received at this office on issue days is 3.30 p.m. Publication of any notices received after that hour cannot be guaranteed for that evening.

THE LIMERICK CHRONICLE

(ESTABLISHED 1766)

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 18 1919

COMING URBAN ELECTIONS.

We are now within four weeks of the Urban Council Elections, and they cannot be regarded as of exceptional interest and importance, bearing in mind the new system under which they will take place. We refer, of course, to the Proportional Representation Act, which is, for the country generally, a novel experience, having hitherto only come into operation at the Municipal Elections in Sligo, and at the Parliamentary election for Trinity College. The object of "P.R." is to give representation to parties in proportion to their electoral strength, and thereby secure the adequate representation of minorities. It thus becomes all classes of voters and ratepayers to take an active, practical interest in local affairs—to take such steps as will tend to bring down heavy taxation, and at the same time to formulate and carry through a policy of advancement and progress for the benefit of the public weal, and the locality in general. The "P.R." system affords a rare opportunity for the infusion into our public bodies of element representative of all classes, who, working for a common object, may be trusted to leave nothing undone to achieve the ideal to which we have just aspired. Though in Limerick, so far, we have had little stir regarding the coming elections, it is anticipated that various sections of the community, including the Citizens and Ratepayers' Association, will forward candidates in the several wards. As this Association takes a keen and intelligent interest in matters affecting the welfare and the well-being of the community, there is every reason to hope and expect that material success will attend its efforts.

DISTRESSING CITY FATALITY.

Two Marine Apprentices Drowned.

A distressing occurrence took place in the Shannon outside the entrance to the Limerick docks yesterday afternoon, by which two apprentices named Crowther and Lennor, of the steamer "Irmgard," lost their lives. The vessel arrived in port about a fortnight ago with maize for Messrs J Baunatyne & Sons, but while she was being discharged a strike of dock labourers (still unsettled) occurred, with the result that operations had to be suspended. In the circumstances it was decided by the consignors to divert her to a cross-Channel port, but there was a difficulty experienced in getting a pilot to take her down the river. Government aid was secured, and the services of Commander Robinson, of the Admiralty, were availed of for this purpose, and he accordingly arrived to pilot the vessel to sea. The "Irmgard" left her moorings in the docks at two o'clock yesterday, there being a large force of police and military present to prevent any interference with her. She came out astern, and in order to get her into the fairway four apprentices took to a small boat for the purpose of running the lines to help in getting the vessel clear. The propeller, while the boat was close to the steamer, stopped for a moment, and when the vessel was again put in motion the propeller struck the small craft, with the painful result that the four occupants were thrown into the water. One of them must have been struck by the propeller, for he never rose to the surface, and the other three struggled for a time. Captain Anderson, of the "Irmgard" promptly jumped from the bridge into the water to his comrades' rescue, as did also a Highland soldier who was aboard the steamer at the time. With the aid of a raft two of the men were rescued, but the other was drowned in swimming from the scene of the accident to mid river. In the unhappy circumstances the vessel returned to her berth, where she at present lies. At the time of the fatality there was a large crowd of people on the quay, and the sad occurrence created a sensation, and deep sympathy for the men who lost their lives. Up to the present the bodies have not been recovered.

EXTRAORDINARY RAID IN CORK.

Railway Staff Held up

A daring raid for arms took place on Tuesday night at the Cork Station of the Cork and Bandon Railway Company. Fifty of the night staff of the Cork, Bandon, and South Coast Railway were at work when a party of armed men entered the station and held up every official in the premises. It is not known how many raiders took part in the affair, but it is reckoned that at least there were between 150 and 200 men. At 11 o'clock a whistle signal sounded and

THE DOCK LABOURERS' STRIKE

Shortage of Coal Works

There has been no development caused by the Dock Labourers' past twenty-four hours, and there is but a slender hope of reaching this week. The main dispute is the displacement of hands employed by Messrs J whose business is gravely hampered by the prolongation of the strike. The week that a number of men after this week in consequence of this notice becomes operative, to-morrow. Other interests vitally affected by the deadlock

The Gas Works have only manufacture gas up to to should none be forthcoming down. A cargo of coal is on but will not reach Dublin because of the circumstances, Mr Enr phoned the Coal Controller with commandeer whatever stock the city in order to keep the

The labourers have refused merchants' yards to deliver but negotiations are taking inducing them to realise the action and the hardship inflicted on the citizens if the go run out.

A deputation consisting of (Mayor locum tenens), Council Joseph McInerney, with conferred with the labour to-day, and pointed out to refusal to handle coal for the on the city. After a brief representatives decided to ha situation as far as the Gas W concerned is thus greatly relie

CONTROL OF Future Pro

Statement in C

In the House of Commons Mr George Roberts, repl Doyle, said that he proposed all home-grown agricultur wheat during the first six r So long as a world shortage continued, some measure of of these commodities must b measures of control appropri were unsuited to the period was clear in his own mind supervision of our food supp exercised, at least for th What powers would be nece to what department it would be for Parliament to determ was able to estimate an adv that for the three years on