HOME HINTS.

Tough meat should be laid in vinegar a few minutes before cooking. This is a particularly useful hint for summer, when meat cannot be hung till tender, as in winter.

Raw beef bones should never be thrown away, for broken into small pieces they make an excellent foundation for soup.

When washing a new blanket for the first time, begin by soaking it for twelve hours in cold water, then rinse in clear water. This will remove the sulphur used in the bleaching. After this wash the blanket in a lukewarm lather made of boiled soap and water, rinse well in clear water, shake thoroughly, and hang out to dry.

A little saltpetre added to the water in which cut flowers are placed will make them last twice as long as they otherwise would do.

It is quite easy to make one's own ammonia at home in the following way: Mix one ounce of lump ammonia with half a gallon of cold water. When this is dissolved the addition of a little yellow soap will make it quite cloudy.

Wash your lamp-burners occasionally if you want the lamps to give a good light. Scrub well in a solution of lather (two soap) and dry by standing on the stove rack. Put them into a paper bag before placing on the rack, as this prevents them from dust.

Dust bins should be kept covered and far from the vicinity of the dwellings, not only on account of unpleasant and fusty smells, but the mixture of rotten vegetable matter and other refuse causes fermentation, which is most dangerous. All dust bins should be emptied at least once a week.

The care of the piano is not understood as a rule, and as a valuable instrument often suffers. Always shake down the piano at night and in damp weather; open it on bright days, and, if possible, let the sun shine on the keys, for the light prevents the ivory from turning yellow.

It is a good plan to apply a coat of clear varnish to leather mountings before it is used. This makes it last much longer than it otherwise would do, and it always looks fresh and nice. White varnish should be used for white matting.

To wash a Shantung blouse, first wash in the ordinary way, but do not rub the material. Put it on the line until it is quite dry, then iron on the right side, which will give it the silk appearance it has when new. Never damp before ironing Shantung, or it will appear as if spotted with grease.

TEA GLOVES.

Tea kid gloves are often difficult to mend without leaving their further, but if treated in the following way there is no chance of this happening. Test of all buttonhole all round the edge of the rent (not quite as close as in making a buttonhole), then overcast, taking up the edge of the buttonhole and draw the two edges together. This plan is really most effective.

A USE FOR OLD CORKS.

Don't throw old corks away, they can be made useful in various ways. A good way to use them if you have a shabby photo frame is to cut the corks up into small pieces and stick them on the outside of the frame. Put it aside to dry, and then brush over with liquid gum or varnish. This would also be suitable for boxes, with a picture of some kind for the centre.

A DOWN QUILT.

Save your poultry feathers and get your friends to give you theirs. Dry them in a cool oven. Then make small bags (about four inches square) of any bits of light weight material and fill them. Sew these together like patchwork and use lightly enough add a frill of sateen. You will then have a down quilt—quite equal to an expensive bought one.

DOTS FOR WOMEN.

Don't knock until you are so exhausted that you can work no more. If you do, you may find yourself condemned to a long and serious illness at the very moment when you most wish to be up and doing. Don't indulge in pleasure until it begins to weary you, for once you have reached the point of satiety, enjoyment takes to itself stings and flies away. Don't prolong a visit, even to your best friend, until your hostess constantly wonders if you intend to make her house your home, a mistake some of hospitality may urge her to press you to remain each time you announce your departure, but it is better to be seen than to be all too long. You will be all the more welcome when you come again.

SOME USEFUL RECIPES.

MUTTON OLIVES.—Slices of cold mutton, carrots, salt, allspice, veal stuffing, good gravy. Cut some neat slices of cold mutton, scatter red pepper, salt, and a little allspice over, put a piece of stuffing on one end of the slice. Roll up and tie securely with cotton. Place the rolls on a baking tray, pour some good gravy round, tie over greaseproof paper, and cook for half an hour. Serve in a wall of mashed potato, and hand red-currant jelly.

ASPARAGUS.—Well wash them free from sand, then peel very thin, in so doing, shape them a little but without wasting much. Boil in salted water for five minutes, then strain. Put them into enough thickened gravy to just cover, and let all stew until the artichokes are quite tender, but not broken. Dish them in the gravy.

BARLEY SCONES IN SYRUP.—Put some syrup into a pot that has a spout to it, then boil until it comes to a caramel, and skim well. Have ready a marble stone, well oiled to prevent it sticking; pour the syrup out readily gently along the marble, in long strips about a quarter of an inch in thickness; then, while hot, twist it, then let it remain until cold. The grated rind of a lemon boiled in the syrup gives the barley sugar a pleasant flavour. Do not let the caramel colour.

ROLLED BREAST OF LAMB.—Bone a plump but lean breast of lamb, then remove the skin. Dredge it well with the rolling-pin. Lay it flat upon the dresser and cover the inner side with the following: First a layer of skinned small mushrooms (not champignons), then with bearded oysters, over these fine spiced breadcrumbs, then dice-shaped pieces of butter. Season with lemon juice and cayenne. Roll all up safely and fasten the ends securely. Place it in a deep baking pan, set in a moderately heated oven. When nearly done, skim off all fat, pour in a pint of good veal stock that has been well-flavoured with "Lemco." Dish the meat, pour the gravy around it, garnish with devilled small mushrooms. (This can be sent to table with white radishes stewed in milk, then Chickwick with cream.) Serve very hot.

POTATO BLOCKS.—These are nice when the old potatoes are not very good. Boil and mash one pound of potatoes, add one ounce of butter, the yolk of an egg, pepper and salt, and one teaspoonful of chopped parsley. Knead all together, then roll out on floured board to about one inch and a half thick, cut into blocks; brush over with milk, and brown nicely in the oven. These are a nice accompaniment to cold meat, or as a garnish for made dishes.

TOMATO BUTTER.—For 20lb. of tomatoes, use 8lb. of sugar, 4oz. of ginger root, the juice of four lemons, and one tablespoonful of powdered ginger. Peel the tomatoes, and cook them with the pared, cored, and quartered apples one hour, then add the sugar, lemon juice, and ginger. Cook slowly until it is thick. It may be put in glasses like jelly, or in jars. Cover with two thicknesses of paper, wet the top with the white of an egg, and when dry place in a cool, dark place to keep. If one objects to the seeds, the tomatoes may be run through a wire sieve before putting in the sugar and lemon juice. This is excellent.

HOUSING & TOWN PLANNING NOTES.

(By an Expert).

(Contributed).

The proposal to acquire the Crystal Palace for the nation, now a fair way of accomplishment, is, I hear, most likely mean a distinct step in the advancement of modern methods of dealing with the housing problem. It is not generally known that the Palace shall be used for educational purposes; and among the proposals is a suggestion that an exhibition of town planning should be opened there. Such an exhibition might well be a great stimulus to the town planning scheme in this country as originally submitted and as finally passed. Some people have said that the Palace would become in reason to town planning what the Pyramids are to Egyptian art and archeology. If this idea were to be carried out to its full extent, the Crystal Palace would be opened as a town planning museum as important so, and not less impressive than that which is about to be sealed.

* * *

As I foreshadowed a few weeks ago, the extension of the scheme of the Government's Insurance Bill was approved by the House of Commons. In the meantime the Local Government Board has sent out a circular to the Boroughs Guardians in for a good deal of abuse. But that was mainly because of a report of the Inter-departmental Committee which with the aids with no gentle hand. Harcourts is not to say more to the point or even the chief sinner in this respect. There are far worse offenders against the laws of health than the Boroughs Guardians. The medical officers of health and the mortality tables of the Local Government Board kindly to the fact that many other local authorities to carry out the law. But the principle of interference by a central authority with local governing bodies is one which may easily be carried too far and may result in producing evils as great as those it is designed to remedy. There is, however, a probability that the Local Government Board will shortly take other steps which will have the same effect as the exercise of the power conferred on the Insurance Health Committee. The housing section of the Housing and Town Planning Act gives to the Board powers of interference which will presently be exercised, for the defaulting local authorities are being carefully watched.

* * *

I am indebted to the British Consul at Naples for information in reference to some great improvements in contemplation there. Naples is not well known to visitors to the Continent, and has such historic associations for many who would visit the city if they had the opportunity, that all will be interested in the effort of the moderns to rival the ancients in producing monuments which shall be as instructive to posterity as those which the conquerors of antiquity have left for us to admire. The ancients delighted in producing grandeur for the wealthy, but to-day we look to the great interests of the public, health, culture. So when in Naples, the Civic Council finds that 200 people are living in a house together out of the power of the workers to pay, they sought to provide houses within the means of the poor.

* * *

Here is the plan. The Council is to provide in order to cope with its own local problem, a sum of £12,000 a year for 50 years. That sum is to be given to a building society, which is not an institution created for the construction of popular dwellings, and the first operations will begin in 1911. Ten dwellings are to be erected at a rental not exceeding a stipulated figure, and the arrangement is made with a view to enabling the Council to borrow money upon the security of the value of the dwellings to be proceeded with immediately. In the neighbourhood of Naples, Castellamare, there is a sum up to £40,000 is to be laid free of taxes, the object being a similar one. Both projects are on a large scale, but it may well show that the need of better housing in these days is not only being felt but is being met, though the remedy provided is a desperate one.

* * *

The Local Government Board, I note, has suggested to the Ripon Corporation that it need not worry about how the Council is going about its part of the policy of the Central Authority which is aiming at preventing congestion, disease, epidemics, and insanity. Frequently in such districts, there is need for improving the housing conditions of large slums and insanitary dwellings. But when it comes to planning extensions which are to be the place, the work is simply one of supervision and the money spent on it might be much better applied for other purposes.

* * *

But there is still a great deal to be done by local authorities in or near populous districts. London is very backward in the respect, and there are many other large cities which will do well to copy the example of Birmingham. When Mr. Burns While Premier, he was wont, we shall see, in a concrete form, what has been done. Those districts which have not been so fortunate have done their work very much at cooperation with the local owners. The latter are willing to assist local authorities when they are properly approached, for there is not really to be any depreciation of property in the same place when houses are huddled together in hopeless order and in a condition to be ripe to become more stable and occupiers are likely to be less wasteful when brought up in proper surroundings.

A STRIKING CAREER.

Author of the Grinding Regulations.

Sheffield's Loss.

Sheffield is shorty to lose Mr. S. R. Bennett, H.M. Inspector of Factories, whose inventive capacities have been so successfully employed during the last few years in reducing the death roll of the city's grinding shops to less deadly proportions.

To secure the appointment of H.M. Chief Inspector of Factories, Mr. Bennett, the Inspector of Ireland as Mr. Bennett has done in a degree of success that falls to the lot of very few at the age of 54; but in Mr. Bennett's case it justly crowns a singularly eventful career.

As a student at Dublin University he won the double senior moderatorship and two gold medals in the logical, mental and moral philosophical physics, and was awarded his M.A. degree.

His first public appointment was as H.M. Inspector of Factories at Southampton, where he remained for two and a half years. Seven and a half years ago he came to Sheffield, and whilst in this city was specially commissioned by the Home Office to devise adequate means for dust removal in grinding shops. So successful were his experiments and investigations that some his regulations were made the Home Office regulations to-day obtaining and posted in every grinding shop in Sheffield. Upon these experiments and investigations Mr. Bennett contributed a paper to the Society of Arts which secured for him the highest commendation of that society, and a letter of high appreciation of his valuable work ship inspection.

Whilst in Sheffield Mr. Bennett has contributed many social tips, chief of these, his lectures on Max Gertrude Rubbers, daughter of ex-Alderman Rotham. He has been deservedly popular, and will carry with him to London every wish for his success from all with whom he has been brought into contact.

Mr. Bennett is son of Mr. John Bennett Bagenalstown, Co. Carlow, and brother of Mr. A. T. Bennett, M.P.S.I., Proprietor of Bennett's Medical Hall, 14 High street, Kilkenny.

CENTRAL BRANCH GAELIC LEAGUE.

ANNUAL MEETING.

The annual general meeting of the members of the above branch takes place on Monday night next at the League Rooms, Rothe's Arch, when the secretary's and treasurer's reports will be submitted and a new committee elected for the coming year. The proceedings will be of a very important nature, and a good attendance of members is expected.

IN WILD ACHILL ISLAND.

If you are tired of pleasures, pipes, brass bands, and the like, go to Achill. If you danger for sensation go to Achill. If you desire to see pre-historic civilisation, go to Achill. There the most-traveled, the most-cultured, the most-sophisticated, the most-jaded will enjoy the pleasure of the long forgotten thrill. Only a few hours from London and you are in a country where the people are remote from the Dutchmen as the natives of New Zealand

Not that Achill people are savages.

On the contrary, the aborigines of the wild, wind and are the kindest, simplest, politest people you meet anywhere, so that the railway runs to Achill Sound, they are becoming accomplished. Most of town visitors are already. They get their new acquirement at every opportunity. As you walk up the wide cottages among the sun bags to get black tart, up the awful precipices, or on the shore, hearty voices hail you from afar, "Ye're kindly welcome!" or "Good luck to ye!" or "God and the Virgin be wid ye!" The barefooted children greet you with a smile from ear to ear, and if you have left off the beaten track, say at Keel, Strand, or Dooega, they will follow at respectful distance, full of wonder at the strange clothes of the civilised English folks. If you rest on the sands, they will sit closely around, silent, respectful, gazing with large, innocent eyes on the apparition of a woman with a hat, and a man with an umbrella.

One of an admiring group of ten who thus haunted us in Keel Bay had been on the mainland, and was delighted to hear that our sovereign he pronounced them to be "tip jennies."

Keel Bay has a noble strand three miles across. On the left are the stupendous Menaun cliffs, a thousand feet above the grand sweep of Keel Strand. Nature has worn out the wonderful cathedral caves. We had it to ourselves, the whole bay, the cliffs, the caves, the cliffs, caves, and the great rollers which had been running for three thousand miles before they arrived at the cliffs and sent sheets of spray a hundred feet in the air.

Not a boat, not a brick, not a vestige of the presence of man since creation. And Achill has a dozen similar bays where you see the human eyes of seals looking at the rare visitors with much the same expression as the children of Donkinely, who followed us on the shores of Keel Bay.

It was at Doulinly that we met our old friend Dennis Malcahy, awaiting the start of our 30-mile extraordinary funerals which have no counterpart in Europe.

"Ah! is it yerself back in Ould Achill; glory be! Bad scran to the day ye left us! Sure, I was wondherin' to me ould woman what was become o' ye, and sure, she said ye might be dead; an' I was a pity, for ye was the best looker among ye had on ye, an' the prize of a dhrink in yer fist."

"Dead, eh? to Bridget, 'an' him a Black Protestant, milla murther and ochone!"

"Says Bridget back to me, 'If it's dead he is, maybe he died on a day when the Divil was too busy to notice him.'"

"To a sway the cheerful word ye'll get from Bridget, Michael."

"We had an American here fishin' for salmon that might have caught more than he landed for the asking. The dirty thafe o' the world! Not an Irish American, but one o' them thieves' Germans—Americans, the pest o' the earth! Sure, I was in America, and came wut her to Achill.

"The way that man swore when he lost a fish would scald a stone bridge. An' the poor men that was beatin' for him; attin' frighten and sweat! Sell us dead rats, the mean brute that had made money! I could have kicked him so high that folks on the mainland would have taken him for a comet.

"It's mercit would have liked to beat him into a resemblance of his great grand-father's bones."

The Achillee are most grateful, the most appreciative of kindness and reasonable consideration, and also, perhaps, the most quickest to feel and resent a slight. The German-American had left a bad name at Doukinelly.

"He had no poetthy in him," growled Dennis. "Nathin' but money-makin' an' his own pleasure. An' the divil's own liar. He was a man could lie the coat off a man's back, the tail off a man's horse, an' not a decent pla'ymatin' with dagger. May hell swallow him!"

Dennis pointed to the cot whence came the weird sound of the death-wail. Strange and impressive was that mournfully song, as the coffin carried to the Abbey, with three crosses on the breast, was reverently borne from the hut and laid on a flat cart, and the procession began and swelled as moments of the crowd. For the whole townland was there, but the children—the men in their best clothes, the women in red kerchiefs, shawls on their heads, riding barebacked steeds, sitting on the extremity of the cropper, and guiding the horses with reins of plaited straw. Seen at a distance the bright-coloured shawls over the mile-long procession of horses made a picture strongly reminiscent of North American Indians on the march, while the rugged shore, the cliffs and the hills hedged down by large boulders, the dark line of Slievemore Mountains almost overhanging us, and the distant roar of the Atlantic contributed to the deeply impressive effect.

Slowly the long procession toiled up the rugged road to the cemetery, two daughters of the deceased woman sitting on the coffin, as is customary.

The nearest relatives follow the coffin of respect.

A woman near me said, "Good evening!" but the Achillee say "Good evening" from early morn.

"How old was she?" I asked. The woman understood and made an effort to translate her thoughts to English.

"Three—twenty—eighteen," she replied at last.

From that I concluded that the deceased was seventy-eight.

A long trudge, mile upon mile, and then a sudden turn up the mountain side. Sensation is worth climbing. Its 2,500 feet give a grand look-out over the Atlantic, and it stops from sweeping over the mainland, as the whole of the island is mapped out for excursions.

"Masha," said Dennis, "the next parish is America."

At the graveyard, a rude enclosure without any buildings, the whole of the women raised a wailing cry, and once again, the wild cry re-echoing from the mountain with startling effect.

The coffin was lowered and measured, and the daughters again sat on it while the grave was dug. When it was ready, it was opened, the daughters in turn knelt by the grave, and, wringing their hands and gesticulating wildly, recounted the good deeds and the virtues of the deceased, with their own sorrow, all in Irish, and with many bitter tears, the crowd following with sympathetic cries. Then, while the grave was filled, all, except a few young women, sat around and smoked pipes. Not a pipe was there any religious service.

For fishing, shooting; for trout, bass, cod fish; for snipe and other wildfowl, yes, even for eagles Achill is worth visiting. You may spend a fortnight in Achill and enjoy yourself. Last season landed 150 whales, and at one blow cleared the expense of their outfit. Dogfish, the most detestable odour of all the fish family, more. Was good bloktz ranging from 30s. to 60s. a week; there was a boat every day except Sunday, and actually a telegraph station.

In Achill the civilisation of the 20th century is seen beside the barbarism of ten thousand years ago. But the Achillee are moving. In 20 years they have advanced more than in the previous five centuries, and those who would see the unspoiled islanders should do so while yet there is time.

"Sure," says Dennis, "I seen a blouse in Achill wid me two good-lookin' eyes; a blouse on a girl wid hair like a barnin' hay-rick, a waist like a turf-sack, an' a face like three licks in a mud-wall."

It was our farewell. Dennis took us back to the rail and civilisation. As the train began to grip exclaimed, "By the ten lame popies of Ballyhaunis, and it's sorry I am ye're goin'. Sure we'll have Home Rule in a year, an' when next ye come ye'll find us all rollin' gould motor cars!"—Arley Lane.

NEW PARTY LEADER.

MR. BONAR LAW ELECTED BY UNIONISTS.

At a Unionist party meeting which was held at the Carlton Club on Monday Mr. Bonar Law was unanimously elected to be the leader of the Unionist party in the House of Commons. Mr. Long proposed the election, and Mr. Austen Chamberlain seconded it. Other speakers said they had been in complete harmony with the course to be pursued, while Mr. Chamberlain declared that a vote taken between himself and Mr. Long was sure to have had a close result. Mr. Claplin, who presided, said that the action of Mr. Long and Mr. Chamberlain was "one of the utmost nobility of character." Mr. Law accepted his election amid loud cheers, and spoke of the "great confidence that Mr. Joseph Chamberlain could not become their leader." Loud cheers followed, with loud cheers from both sides in the House of Commons he could his best Mr. Bonar Law, Austen Chamberlain and Mr. Long on the front Opposition bench.

AN ENTHUSIASTIC MEETING.

The meeting of Unionist members of the House of Commons took place at noon on Monday in the committee room of the Carlton Club.

It was the first time in a score of years that such a meeting had been held, and there was a full attendance. Mr. Henry Chaplin, by virtue of his position as senior Privy Councillor in the House, presided.

The meeting lasted fifty-five minutes, and was characterised by great enthusiasm and complete unanimity. Mr. Bonar Law was introduced into the room by Sir Edward Carson. The advent of the new leader was greeted with cheering. These present wildly applauding Mr. Bonar Law.

The following official statement was issued from the headquarters of the Conservative Party:—

At a meeting held in the Carlton Club at midday to-day, upon the motion of Lord Lord Hamilton, seconded by Colonel Lockwood, Mr. Chaplin was voted to the chair.

Mr. Walter Long proposed, and Mr. Austen Chamberlain seconded, an invitation to Mr. Bonar Law to succeed the leadership of the Unionist Party in the House of Commons. The motion was carried unanimously, and by acclamation.

Mr. Bonar Law thanked the meeting, and promised to take the post.

MESSAGE TO MR. BALFOUR.

On the motion of Mr. Chaplin, the following message to Mr. Balfour was unanimously adopted:

That this meeting of your followers assembled to elect a successor to your leadership of the Unionist Party in the House of Commons, places on record the profound sense of the loss which the party and nation and the party must sustain by your resignation.

But, in view of the reasons which you have assigned, it recognises that your decision was inevitable, and that the most devoted of them could not ask you to reconsider it. It desires to express to you its profound appreciation of the splendid services you have given both to them and to the country during the eight years of Parliament and twenty years of leadership, and it earnestly wishes for you a complete restoration to health and strength which may enable you to resume in a less onerous position and at no distant date some portion of that arduous and exalted service which you have given to the service of your country and party for so many years.

On the motion of Lord Charles Beresford, seconded by Mr. Frank Meldmay, a vote of thanks was passed to the Chairman.

The meeting terminated at 12.55 p.m.

MR. BONAR LAW'S CAREER.

It is only eleven years since the new leader first entered Parliament, and the only office he has held has been the Parliamentary Secretaryship of the Board of Trade during Mr. Balfour's Ministry.

Mr. Bonar Law is fifty-three years of age, and a Scotsman, born in New Brunswick, where his father, the Rev. James Law, was Presbyterian minister in that Canadian province, but when twelve years of age he was sent to Glasgow to complete his education, and to train for a commercial career. Four years later he entered the iron and steel firm of Kidston and Son, iron merchants, of which his uncle was the head. Mr. Law soon developed business success, and in 1890 was elected chairman of the Iron Trade Association in Scotland.

In 1910 he made his political debut by winning the Blackfriars division of Glasgow for his party, a seat which he held until the General Election of 1906.

His maiden speech in the Commons—a reply to Mr. Lloyd George on the conduct of the Boer leaders—was very favourably recognition.

Other successful speeches followed, and in 1902 Mr. Law was appointed Parliamentary Secretary to the Board of Trade.

At the Dissolution Election he gave up his safe seat at Dulwich in order to contest Liberal strongholds in Glasgow, and was unsuccessful, and Colonel Sandys gave way to him in the Bootle division of Lancashire a few weeks later. Mr. Bonar Law now represents that division.

EXCITING SCENES AT HOTEL FIRE

A serious fire occurred at Cardiff, boarders and staff having to escape from the Grand Hotel in a bowing at half-past three on Monday morning. Over a hundred persons were asleep on the premises, and at the alarm they rushed for safety, scrambling into the basement and thence into the street. A gale had been blowing all day, and was then at its height, it was accompanied by heavy rain and hailstones, and the predicament of the residents, many of them wearing only their night attire, was very distressing. Some of them had fled over the roofs, others had could snatch up, and a few had portmanteaux with them. Policemen and onlookers had taken ladders to the upper round in domestic. The doors of the Great Western Hotel on the opposite side of the street were readily opened to them as soon as the position was realised, and they passed through shivering half-dazed men found hospitable shelter there.

The alarm was raised was discovered it was ascertained that there were over fifty members of the staff accommodated in the upper part of the building; twenty-six visitors on the second floor, and twenty-five visitors on the third floor.

Fortunately the burning room was at the back, and the passage, and all being quickly aroused they were able to make their way unhindered to safety.

The fire brigade superintendent and his men found the place ablaze, and fell at once to assume that they had to crawl along the floor in order to penetrate it and get at the seat of the fire. Flames were leaping through the roof, and with the gale blowing it was doubtful, but the brigade had the fire out in half an hour.

PRINCESS PATRICIA OF CONNAUGHT will leave for Canada in about a fortnight's time Lord and Lady Sligo are entertaining a house party at Westport House, Ireland.

Sentiment from all parts of the globe met in the Holborn Restaurant on Saturday evening at the annual dinner of the Scottish Clans Association of London.

A marriage has been arranged between the Hon. Charles Noel, second son of the Earl and Countess of Gainsborough, and Mary, eldest daughter of Colonel Douglas Dick and Mrs. Douglas-Dick, of Pitkerrie, Forfarshire, and 34, Eaumoore-gardens.

KILKENNY FARMERS' PROTECTION ASSOCIATION.

The usual monthly meeting of the County Kilkenny Farmers' Protection Association was held in the Courthouse on Saturday last at 2 o'clock. Mr. James J. Gorey, J.P., presiding. The other members present were:—Messrs J. Byrne, Michael Moylan, D.C.; B. Gorman, M.C.C.; E. Doyle, J.P., D.C.; James Costello, Michael O'Neill, J.P., M.C.C.; Thomas Dunne, D.C.; Henry J. Meagher, J.P., M.C.C.; Michael Byrne, John F. Drennan, Martin Hennessy, Thomas Walsh, and T. Lyster.

Mr. William P. Moore, Hon. Secretary, was present.

Acknowledgment.

Mrs. Lyster, Dunbell, wrote acknowledging with thanks the resolution of sympathy passed by the Association on the death of her husband, Mr. Thomas Lyster, D.C.

It was enquired that the letter be inserted on the minutes.

Dublin Winter Show.

Mr. Thomas Drew, Secretary of the County Kilkenny Committee of Agriculture, came before the meeting and gave an explanation with reference to the vouchers which the Department of Agriculture and Technical Instruction was prepared to issue to Irish farmers in connection with the forthcoming winter show of the Royal Dublin Society. On payment of 10s. a farmer could have a voucher which would entitle the holder to a third-class return ticket to Dublin at three quarters the single fare, which, from Kilkenny, would work out at about 3s. The Show would be held on the 5th and 6th December, but the holder of the voucher would be allowed to travel up to Dublin at the reduced fare on the 4th December. In addition to the voucher that would entitle the holder to a reduced railway charge, there was a second voucher that would entitle the holder to admission to the Show and a free luncheon. The whole would cost only 1s. 6d. He (Mr. Drew) thought that this would have a supply of these vouchers. Mr. Lucey and the other instructors would also have a supply of them, so that an application to any of them would enable any person intending to travel to the Show to obtain a voucher. The railway ticket would hold good until the 7th December.

Direct Representation.

Mr. O'Neill—You are aware that presently in the County Kilkenny we have two organisations, one appointed by the County Council, called the Agricultural Committee of the County Council, and we have secondly, the Farmers' Association, whose objects we are here attending. These two bodies, their intentions and their objects are identical, and would it not be necessary now that we should get into somewhat closer contact, to forward the objects which we all have in view? With that object I beg to propose—"That this Association, called Farmers' Protection Association, desire representation on the Agricultural Committee of the County Council with a view to bringing into closer contact the business of both Associations, whose objects and intentions are quite identical."

Chairman—Are the members of the Committee of Agriculture already formed?

Mr. Thomas Drew—Yes, it has been formed for the next three years, but it is open to the Council if they so desire to co-opt additional members. I should point out, in reply to Mr. O'Neill, that I think this Association is ably represented on the Agricultural Committee, as I am in a position to judge. I am a member of the Committee, Mr. Chairman, and so are Mr. Henry Meagher, Mr. O'Neill, Mr. Gorman, Mr. Doyle, and Mr. Moylan.

Chairman—Mr. O'Neill wants, I think, to have official recognition of this Association.

Mr. O'Neill—Yes.

Mr. Byrne, in seconding Mr. O'Neill's proposition, said he thought it was quite apropos. They wanted representation in every possible place they could get it, and he was of opinion that the fact of the Association having representation on the Agricultural Committee would give the Association a stimulus.

Mr. Drew—All I can say in the matter is that if you make representation to the County Council in the matter, it will be carefully considered. I am sure they would be only too delighted to have representatives from this Association on their Committee. My position in this matter, I am sure, is understood. I have no authority whatever to speak for the County Council.

Mr. O'Neill—The Farmers' Protection Association and the Agricultural Committee have to be in closer touch with one another.

The Chairman said the fact of having direct representation on the Agricultural Committee would give the Association an impetus and status that it hadn't at present.

In reply to a question Mr. Drew said the Agricultural Committee was composed of eighty members, but they never had more than about 25 per cent. of that number present at the meetings. If he knew anything of the feelings of the members of the County Council of Agricultural Committee, he thought they would gladly welcome direct representation from that Association on the Agricultural Committee.

Mr. O'Neill—I would suggest that we name two representatives of this Association, as members of it.

Chairman—We are not going to decide on that today. The appointment of representatives can be put on the agenda for consideration at our next meeting.

Mr. O'Neill's proposition was then declared passed unanimously, the question of the appointment of delegates to be put on the agenda for next meeting.

Proposed Irish Farmers Union.

Mr. Herbert J. Reid, Secretary of the County Dublin Farmers' Association, wrote forwarding a list of rules which, with such amendments as could be considered advisable, might be useful as a suggested basis for the establishment and working of the proposed Irish Farmers' Union, which would be composed of Farmers' Associations already established upon non-party and non-sectarian lines for the advancement of the welfare of agriculture and those engaged in its pursuit. The Dublin Association, he thought, would not had applied to the Royal Dublin Society for the use of a room, at Ballsbridge on the 5th day of the winter show for the purpose of a meeting of delegates for the various societies interested and approving of the proposed Union. It was hoped that the County Kilkenny Association would delegate two representatives to attend that conference, but in such case it would be well if the rules of the proposed Union would be discussed by the Committee, so that such changes as would be regarded as desirable might be carefully thought out.

Chairman—I think it is a move in the right direction, because it means centralisation of action for the different Farmers' Associations throughout the country.

Mr. O'Neill—I take it that the Union it is proposed to establish would be something like the Agricultural's General Council.

Mr. Moore thought the affiliation would come pretty hard on them. It was £1 for the first fifty members, and 10s. for every fifty after that. The affiliation for an Association with 100 of a membership would cost £3 and 30s. Their Association at present consisted of 115 members.

Mr. Byrne—It would be a very desirable thing to have all our force concentrated in a Central Union. As far as I can see, Irish Ireland is have done very well for the last season, although, of course, we didn't meet the popular election of all the farmers of the country. As up the battery question in the early part of the season, and I think myself, from what I can see, that were it not for the Farmers' Association you would not see barley up to 17s. to day.

Mr. Gorman proposed that they approve of the principle of the proposed Irish Farmers' Union.

Mr. Doyle seconded the proposition, which was passed unanimously.

The Chairman said he hoped that the Union would be non-political and non-sectarian in the spirit as well as in the letter, and not be like the Gaelic Athletic Association which had a rule that opps taken sides in the industrial war and financed the Irish Transport Union in Wexford—a certain section of the Leinster Council.

Mr. Byrne proposed the adoption of the rules, as read, and seconded by Mr. Moylan.

Mr. Moore seconded the proposition, which was passed unanimously.

The following people were appointed to represent the Association at the Conference of Farmers' Associations, which is to be held in Dublin on the 5th December, for the purpose of considering the rules, etc., of the proposed Union:

Mr. O'Neill said that in view of what was in store for their country he thought it might be well if they gave one direction to their delegates, and that direction should be that it was their desire that their delegates should insist that the best measure of Home Rule should be granted to this country. They should remember that numbers of their countrymen were still unparalleled tenants. They were coming to a very vital crisis in the history of their country, and they should be a voice, and a particular voice, in the future representation that was to be given them. He had been one of those who had spoken to them in the past, and he thought they should tell those who were now absolute masters of the situation that they ought to take them into their confidence, and that they would ande sy what was to be and as regards Ireland, and Irish industries, particularly the farming industry.

Mr. Gorman—The rules lay down that it will be a non-political Association. There are many a man who might be opposed to Home Rule and still be a member of the Association. Do you have political bodies in the country to express the opinion of the people on that matter.

The Chairman agreed with Mr. O'Gorman that they had enough public meetings in Kilkenny—in fact, they had too many meetings.

Mr. O'Neill—I merely make the suggestion.

Mr. Byrne—We can discuss the result of the deliberations of the Conference later on.

The matter dropped, and the meeting adjourned.

WILL OF COLONEL CHARLES KENDAL BUSHE.

Colonel Charles Kendal Bushe, F.G.S., of 19 Cromwell road, Earlsfort Terrace, S.W., formerly of Fort Park, Raheny, Dublin, and of the 59th Foot, with which regiment he saw service in China (1856-7), and who died 20th September last, aged 85 years, left estate of the gross value of £37,431 16s. 11d., of which the net personalty has been sworn at £25,403 16s. 6d. Probate of his will, dated 10th March, 1909, has been granted to his son, Captain Kendal Bushe, D.C.L., of 15 Cromwell Road, London, S.W., and his nephew, Dr. Hugh Faulkner, M.D., of St. John's House, Rathmy. The testator left £2000 to each of the executors of his will, and all his other property to his wife for life, and on her decease real, leasehold, and copyhold properties in County Kilkenny, Ireland, or the proceeds of the sale thereof, upon trust for his son, Captain Charles Kendal Bushe, for life, with remainder to his children as he may appoint, or equally, and in default of such appointment, equally to one-half upon trust for his daughter, Florence Olive Bushe, and her issue who failing, to the other half which he left to his son Charles Kendal Bushe absolutely.

Other Interesting Items

A Hampton-on-Thames schoolboy, Thomas Bloxham, has pushed a bath-chair containing a cripple friend, from Walcheston to Aldershot and back.

On Sunday morning a wasp was seen flying about in the Market-place at Kingston-on-Thames during the intervals of sunshine, and attracted much attention.

A small oak pile from the foundations of the wall which bounded Bonaparte's garden in its south side has been presented by the Streets Committee to the Guildhall Museum.

The members of the Woolwich Antiquarian Society have discovered a first bath at Dockyard Wood, Kent.

Professor Silvanus Thompson, speaking at the Steinway Hall on Saturday night on "Some Experiments in Acoustics," said that, owing to imperfection of the mechanism of the ear, even those with the best hearing were deaf to certain sounds.

The members of the Stoke d'Abernon (Surrey) and District Sportsman's Bat and Mole Club have killed 4,140 sparrows, 4,252 rats, 6,637 moles, and 195 stoats during the past year.

Members of a new temperance league which is being formed in Mile End Road wear a blue finger ring instead of a blue ribbon.

A British tumulus has been found on Lord Durham's estate near Sunderland, and beneath it the skeleton of a Roman soldier, 6 feet 6 inches in the chin. Several urns containing bones were found at the first burial, were contained in the grave. The burial place is believed to be 4,000 years old.

The autograph album of "The Song of Death," by Robert Burns, is only one of many rare manuscripts in the library at Ayr which are to be sold at Messrs. Sotheby's rooms early next month. The library belonged to Gairmer (Burns's Clerk) to Dr. Alexander Adams in 1829, it has remained in the family ever since.

After all expenses have been met, the profits of the Lord Mayor's Show in London and Windsor will be devoted to the King Edward VII. Hospital at Windsor.

The Kilkenny (Suffolk) District Council have decided to pay twopence for each dead rat delivered to the surveyor.

Residents in Martha-road, Wanstead, have petitioned the metropolitan Asylums Board, on account of the road, as they bathed the name of "Martha," and did everything they possibly could to avoid using it. The council has agreed to change the name to Chesterfield.

James Paice, a Crimea and Mutiny veteran, who died at the workhouse infirmary at Alresford at the age of eighty-four, was buried with full military honours.

The latest fashion in Vienna, according to "Man's Wear," is the "interchangable Chester," fitted with two collars.

CORNS ARE NOT LIKE GLUE.

They are easier to remove, if you use the right remover.

"Wellseene"

is the quickest, least painful, and surest. Corn and Wart remover in existence. It costs 1½ post free. The question is, do you prefer "Wellseene" or the shilling?

From Testimonials:

"Please send by return one bottle of Wellseene, for which I enclose P.O. for 1½. I have been using it before with marvellous effects."

"My son, Captain —— has asked me to write to you for a bottle of your wonderful Corn Cure you had him a couple of years ago; I think it was called Wellseene."

"Send me a bottle of your Wellseene. It certainly is very good indeed. I have told a lot of my friends of it."

WELLS, L.P.S.I.,
20, UPPER BAGGOT-ST., DUBLIN.

CALLAN RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

The quarterly meeting of the Callan Rural District Council was held in the Courthouse, Callan, on Monday last at 12 o'clock. Mr. Patrick Tobin, J.P., M.C.C., Chairman, presiding. Amongst the other members present were:—Messrs John Butler, J.P., Chairman County Council; Thomas B. Cahill, William Egan, T.C., John Tobin, Anthony Martin, Patrick Townsend, P. Lundy, Michael Kenny, John Power, Thomas Egan, Philip Lynch, and James Donovan.

Mr. A. M. Burdon, C.E., County Surveyor, and Michael J. Lynch, Clerk to Council, were in attendance.

County Surveyor's Recommendations.

The following recommendations of the County Surveyor were passed:—

To maintain 251 perches of road from Callan to Kilmanagh, between Castlebolton cross and Graigavoy cross, for 5 years, at 10d. per perch. District charge, £22 19s. 2d.

To maintain 397 perches of road from Callan to Freshford, between Mr. Potter's at Ballykeeffe and barony bounds at same, for 5 years at 8d. per perch. District charge, £19 13s. 4d.

To maintain 94 perches of road from Kilkenny to Ballingarry, between Sullivan's and Grace's houses in Kilmanagh, for five years, at 1s. 2d. per perch. District charge, £5 9s. 6d.

To maintain 622 perches of road from Kells to Freshford, between the Kells road at Rathmacknee, and Mr. Cullen's at Farnbeg, for five years, at 8d. per perch. District charge, £20 14s. 8d.

To maintain 229 perches of road from Callan to Kilcrumb, between McGrath's house at Molassy and the barony bounds at same, for four years, at 6d. per perch. District charge, £5 12s.

To maintain 972 perches