is becoming more and more in evidence, and yet there is no doubt there is still a wide field for its This is the view, for instance, of an eminent authority, Mr. Herbert Samuel, the Postmaster-General, who, speaking some time ago, regarded the system as being little more than in its infancy, and added that his Department looked forward to very largely increasing the sers of it in the future. The transfer which yesterday witnessed of the National Telephone Company's business to the State was, therefore, an' event of no mere passing interest, though it was carried out out automatically, and without anything in the mature of ceremonial. Business as it existed down to the end of the old year on Sunday night passed uninterruptedly into the new, when the Government took over eighteen thousand employees, a third of whom are women, and sixteen million pounds worth of property. The Post Office now controls, roughly 500,000 miles of telephone wire, with 120,000 subscribers' Large as these figures are the number of users of 'phoney, the London Erening Standard shows, is less in Great Butain than some of the leading Continental countries, But with a revision of rates, notably Germany. and the distribution of four milnous, which the Postmaster-General has st his command for the development of the system, it is more than probable, as he enticipated, that the number of users of the telephone will soon very substantially increase. The Evening Standard points out that -"The unification of the Post office and National Company's systems gives the Postmaster-General opportunities which were denied in the case of either system separately, and, with all the advantages of past experience before him, there seems avery reason to believe that he may realise his expectation of greatly expanding the service." Mr. Samuel desires to extend the use of the telephones beyond the limits of the cities and towns, with their connecting trunk lines, to the rural districts, and it will be remembered that in Parliament some months ago the right hou. gentleman made an important statement as to the facilities which would be given in that direction. The development of the system would be of great advantage to the Irish farmer in connection with fairs, markets, and the like, and it is to be hoped that as in the United States, and in many parts of England, he will fully avail himself of this upto-date and ready means of communication placed within his reach. With repard to the employees of the Telephone Company, it is important to note that a memorardum has been issued by the Postmuster-General welcoming those who have been transferred, and declaring that it is his intention to secure equality between the transferred and the existing officers as far as possible. He adds that he confidently expects "that the spirit of devotion to the public service and the keen interest in efficiency which have marked both the Post Office and the National Telephone Company in the past, will continue to

as Nationalist representative for West Clare. Deceased was 83 years of age at the time of his death.

Much sorrow is felt in Birr at the announcement of the death of Mr. Eustace Wallace Good, body, which occurred at the Adelaide Hospital. Dublin, on Thursday. Mr. Goodbody was one of the test known and most respected inhabitants of Birr, and had long been connected with the flour industry of the town.

While trying to secure a barrellful of water at the River Awbeg, near Ballywater Bridge, Shanballymore, a lad of 13, named Carroll, employed by a farmer named Gould, would appear to have a donkey and cart down a passage to the river, which was swollen by the rains. The donkey, the part, and the barrell were found afterwards at a point about a mile away. Carroll is supposed to have been drowned.

The fourth anniversary of the death of Father Casey occurred on Friday, when a demonstration was beld at Abbeyfeale. There was a large attendance, and a procession was formed, the bands from Athea, Castlemahon, and Abbeyfeale taking part. Assembled at the Square, where a large bronze statue stands in memory of the deceased elergyman, Mr. D. Leshy, solicitor, took the chair, and the anniversary oration was delivered by Mr. D. J. Madden, Bathkeale.

SUICIDE IN LIMERICK.

THE INQUEST.

John Baker, a inhourer, residing in Market Alley, aged 65, and married, with a grown up family, committed suicide on Sunday night. The deceased man was in his usual health through the day, and was chatting with his daughter up to about eight o'clock, shortly after which he retired into an inner 100m, and fastering a rape gound his neck, attached the cord to an iron book fixed in the wall. He then swung himself off a chair on which he had been standing, his savingles attracting attention by the noise made by the man, and some relatives and friends savering the rape by which the unfortunate deceased was suspended. Medical assistance was summoned, but proved unavailing, life being extinct, the efforts to revive animation being without success.

Mr. J. F. Barry, J.P., City Coroner, and a jury held an inquest on the remains last evening at Mr. John Malone's licensed premises, Patrick street.

John Malone's licensed premises. Patrick street. Patrick Earls, a son-in-law of the deceased, identified the body. He stated he lived with Baker, at Market Alley, and on Sunday evening, at half-past six he was chatting with him at the tire. After some time the deceased got up, shock hands with him, and remarked that he was going out to say goodbye to Mi-hael Lyddy. He took a hold-fast from the wall, at the same time saying goodbye to his dog. Witness went to his mother's house a little later, and when he returned home he found his father-in-law dead.

Sarah Earls stated she was in bed when her

Sarah Earls stated she was in bed when her daughter of eight years came to her and told her her (witness's) father was hanging from a rope. She got up quickly and cut him down. He was not then dead.

Dr. P. F. Graham, who was summoned to see the deceased at half-past eight on Sunday night, stated the deceased was then dead, and on examination he found marks on the neck such as would be caused by a rope. In witness's opinion death was due to suffocation caused by hanging.

The jury returned a verdict accordingly.

THE CORPORATION.

A special meeting of the Corporation is spiritual advantage to his to be held on Thursday night. The items Dean retains his connection include consideration of the annual estimate, which he served fifty seven

ACCIDENT TO REDMON

Dr. Cox, with Mr. P. O'B in Publin this afternoon for where he has been in attenda Redmond, M.P., since the a Friday last. Dr. Cox authoritollowing bulletin:—"Mr. Re night, and is better to-day."

NEW YEAR'S H

Irish Baronetcy as

The list of New Year's Ho Sunday night, and contains the a dozen new Privy Councillor new Knights is Mr. Rider known novelist.

From the Irish point of wito see that the Recorder of Du a member of the Irish Prive the new Baronets is Mr. As the new Enights metals Benson, Ir. Keightly, Cork University College), an

EXTRAORDINARY SHO

News of an alleged shoots Sunia from Caherfeenick, We to a queerel between a farmer dad a herd named Michael Mi that the parties met on the some words about the show adjoining lands. Walsh was the threw it over the walsaid, eaught him by the three against the wall, struck his Mulling then ran up and pullwhen Walsh went away. jumped over the wall and got after Walsh, who in turn received a number of pellets He bled profusely from the Mulling was arrested and Carroll, R.M., who remander bail. Walsh's wounds are a serious,

LIMERICK QUAR

There are, as already states for trial from the city or consistency opening at 11 a.m. Courty Court Judge Law Single of the Court there are is city, of which 35 are defended county, 50 being defended cases for hearing, six malicity workmen's compensation case and one appeal from the court suits number two,

THE VERY REV. DEA

With the advent of the Ne long life spent in the service Very Rev. Dean Humprey par shes of Ballinaclough which places of worship is years officiated with credit to spiritual advantage to his late Dean retains his connection which he served fifty seven him and only severa him.