

**THE DRINK QUESTION.****DUBLIN PROTEST.****Phoenix Park Meeting.**

A large meeting was held in the Phoenix Park, Dublin, on Sunday afternoon to protest against the proposals of the Chancellor of the Exchequer in reference to the liquor trade. There were three platforms, and at each platform the following resolution was passed:—"That this meeting test against the imposition of any further taxation on their country, and that we call upon Irish representatives to prevent the extension of Ireland of the proposals submitted to the use of Commons on Thursday by the Chancellor of the Exchequer, or any modification thereof. The proposed impost would be an iniquitous injustice to this country, and would have the effect of extinguishing at least two important industries in regard to which Ireland stands prominent, and of throwing tens of thousands of workers out of employment, as well as of inflicting irreparable injury on the agricultural interests of the country."

**POSITION OF GUINNESS AND CO.****Remarkable Figures.**

A good general idea of the way in which the taxes affect the liquor industry is afforded in the case of Messrs Guinness and Co., the whole of whose output comes under the surtax of 36s per barrel. In 1914 Messrs Guinness paid in duty £1,400,000. In 1915 if the output of the brewery remained the same, and the existing taxation remained in force, the duty payable would be three times greater, or £4,200,000. To what amount the duty would be increased under the proposed taxation may in the circumstances be imagined if it cannot be definitely estimated. The specific gravity of Guinness's XX stout is 10.73, and of single stout 10.57, so that the whole of the products of the brewery come under the highest surtax. The same may be practically said of the products of all the other Irish breweries.

**THE CORK MEETING.****Speech of the Mayor of Limerick.**

At the Cork meeting on Saturday, briefly reported in our last issue, the Mayor of Limerick proposed:

(1) That, viewing, as we do, with alarm, the proposal of the Government in the legislation affecting the licensed trade introduced into Parliament by the Chancellor of the Exchequer on Thursday night last, this public meeting of representative citizens of Cork City and County, calls upon all Irish members of Parliament to use every effort to secure that the Irish brewing and distilling industries be not crushed out of existence by the imposition of the crippling sur-taxes on whisky and beer which the Government propose to inflict upon the trade in consequence of

**DROWNING FATALITY.**

A number of small boys were engaged playing near the swivel bridge on Saturday evening when one of them, Michael Shinners, aged nine, accidentally fell into the river, and was drowned, despite the attempts made to rescue him.

Yesterday, Mr James F. Barry, J.P., City Coroner, and a jury, held an inquest as to the cause of death, when evidence was given.

Sergeant McCarthy, William street, represented the Crown.

Michael Shinners, father of the deceased, gave evidence of identification.

Thomas Payne, a youth, stated that he, deceased, and some other boys were playing round the swivel bridge about half-past six o'clock and that deceased while passing under the structure accidentally fell into the river. Witness called a boy named Patrick Kennedy to his assistance, and Kennedy ran for a life buoy. When he arrived with it the deceased was under the water.

Patrick Kennedy gave evidence as to procuring the life buoy, and some men trying to rescue the deceased with grappling irons. The body was recovered shortly after immersion. As far as witness could see the boy Shinners only rose once to the surface.

Sergeant McCarthy deposed to arriving at the place about half-past six o'clock, immediately after the occurrence. Doctor Hurley, of Newcastle West, was there, and used every effort to restore animation when the body was got out of the river, but without avail. Owing to rumours that were put in circulation, witness made inquiries into the case, and found that everything was done that could be done in the efforts made to try and save the boy.

Evidence having been given,

The jury found that death was due to drowning, and was accidental. The jury added a rider to their verdict asking the Harbour Board to take all possible precautions during the erection of the new swivel bridge to prevent loss of life, especially of youngsters frequenting the swivel bridge for the purpose of playing there.

**ATTACK ON A LODGING-HOUSE.**

At Ennis Petty Sessions on Friday, the Justices present were Messrs M. S. Gibson (presiding), Geo. McElroy, R.M., and P. F. Kennahey.

Pat Hurley, Market-street, had a summons against Michael Healy, of Drumsiggle, and his nephew John Healy, for attacking his house and damaging it to the extent of over £1.

Mr T. J. Hunt, solicitor, was for the complainant.

Mr J. B. Lynch, solicitor, was for the defendants, and he mentioned that one of them, John Healy, had joined the Irish Guards.

Hurley said that about one o'clock on the morning of the 29th March a crowd came to his house and awakened him by the noise they made. The defendants were in the crowd. They kicked the door. He came out and opened the door. To prevent them coming in he got a small hatchet, and said they would have to deal with him before coming in. The crowd then went away, but came back in half-an-hour, and

FORM 52.

**Notice of Poor Rate Been Made.****COUNTY OF LIMERICK**

Rural Districts of Croom, Limerick No. 1, Mitchelstown, Rathkeale, and

Notice is hereby given that been duly made on the prop-

in above-named Districts.

For the Ordinary E-

Districts for the service of

31st day of March, 1916, the

named Districts are at £0

Pound:—

To be levied on

**CROON**

In respect of Co. Charges 1  
Do Union do  
Do District do

3

Total to be levied

**KILMALLI**

In respect of Co. Charges 1  
Do Union do  
Do District do

1

Total to be levied

**MITCHELSTO**

In respect of Co. Charges 1  
Do Union do  
Do District do

1

Total to be levied

**RATHKE**

In respect of Co. Charges 1  
Do Union do  
Do District do

1

Total to be levied

**GLIN**

In respect of Co. Charges 1  
Do Union do  
Do District do

1

Total to be levied

**LIMERIC**

In respect of Co. Charges 1  
Do Union do  
Do District do

1