

omy and of commercial and development. Turf is cut and domestic purposes only, but Mr. us that in addition to filling ly useful purpose, especially in of abnormally high prices for it could be utilised, would sup- ual to our present annual con- mported coal, and would do this ree centuries. We can scarcely ssibilities of peat in this country. only known that three million ximately one-seventh of the land is covered by bog which ons of tons of peat. But how mine of mineral wealth could y utilised is, of course, prob- ne thing, however, is certain on to the advantages of peat here would be the accompany- o the country at large of the he bogs, which at present, or they over-flow, are injurious to menace to the property of the tiers. The subject is an old come down to us at recurring time, still, however, awaiting tion, whatever success in that e hoped for, when "after war" ish enterprise are taken up and . More than a century ago a was appointed by Parliament to the nature and extent of d the possibility of draining ng them, but, as Mr. Pletcher he labours of that body, which ion that all the bogs of the l be drained naturally and emained unheeded. However of cheap power is now under tion of the Irish Peat Com- members, of which are still orking out an extremely com- tion, for such it undoubtedly her's view is that the soaring "tell in favour of peat-utilisa- " the growing concern for the e of exhaustion of our coal seems certain that our peat pply a great and increasing pply of energy for industrial ch a supply, moreover, would t of stimulating the growth of terprises in a remarkable eature was, in short, a very ne, and suggestive that, the h and organisation should be the industrial resources of nection with the development, ie, in what, let us hope, will atively near future.

MENT COMMENT.

ne. English newspapers have started an earlier "summer-time," and a being suggested as not too soon saving. It is however, probable es will be adhered to, viz, from y in April to the third Sunday Last year a start was made from

No 1 District Council to have closed St Patrick's Cemetery, Singland, for general interments, Mr M D Mc Coy, solicitor, appeared for the District Council, and Mr C Ebrill, solicitor, for relatives having right of burial in the cemetery. Mr T Ryan, Acting Clerk, gave evidence as to the necessary formalities having been complied with in regard to the application, and Dr M Graham, dispensary medical officer; Mr J J O'Malley, engineer; and Rev M Murphy, P.P. St Patrick's, were examined. Mr O'Malley said the District Council proposed to acquire by compulsory power half an acre of land in the vicinity of the old cemetery. Other witnesses were also heard, and the inquiry was adjourned.

LIMERICK FOOD SUPPLY.

At a meeting of the County Limerick Central Food Supply Committee yesterday, the Chairman (Rev W P Hackett, S.J.) and other members took a rather gloomy view of the food supply situation. It was stated that the sub-committee found it all but impossible to purchase oats at the controlled price, and that in some instances pigs showed an increased exportation of 60 to 70 per cent. compared with pre-war figures. The Irish bacon trade was in a critical state. The workmen in some curing establishments were under notice of dismissal for want of work, and there was a great danger of several firms closing down.

MOST REV DR HALLINAN.

The consecration of the Most Rev Dr Hallinan, R.C., Bishop-elect of Limerick, has been fixed for Sunday, March 16th, in St John's Cathedral the ceremonies commencing at 11 o'clock. The Most Rev Dr Hackett, Bishop of Waterford, will preach the sermon.

MAXIMUM PRICE FOR SPIRITS.

The Food Controller will shortly fix maximum prices for spirits, to be in force in public bars, saloon bars, restaurants, and hotels.

DEATH OF Q.M.S DOOGAN.

The death took place at Lydd, Kent, on Friday, of Quarter-Master Sergeant J Doogan, R.G.A., a native of Limerick. Deceased, who had 25 years' service, spent most of this time in India and Mal'a. On his return home, he was stationed at Lydd. Recently he had been promoted Quarter-Master Sergeant and Gunnery Instructor. Much sympathy is felt for his relatives, who reside in Upper Cecil street. Two of Quarter-Master Sergeant Doogan's brothers are at present serving at the Front.

DESTRUCTIVE FIRE IN CORK.

Cork, Wednesday. A fire which broke out to-night in the most extensive premises of Messrs Newson and Sons, French Church street, Wholesale Grocers and Confectioners, caused damage which is roughly estimated at thirty thousand pounds. The firm's wholesale premises, extending from Patrick street to Paul street, occupy about an acre of ground, and the confectionery factory in the centre suddenly burst into flames and, despite the splendid work of the Municipal Fire Brigade, under Capt Hudson, and the fire piquet and detachment of military, the huge block of buildings was reduced to ruin. The bakehouse, which was formerly a French Church, on one side, and the sugar stores on the other, were saved, because of the strong masonry walls with fireproof doors preventing the spread of the fire. A huge crowd collected, which indulged in Sinn Fein demonstrations and singing, and it was deemed necessary to place a guard of military with fixed bayonets in possession of the street in front of the establishment of Murray and Co, Gunmakers, and the Ulster Bank, adjoining the scene of the fire. The disorder next

morning, going at full speed westwards. During the last few days a great number of German submarines have been observed off the southern coast of Norway.

One of Six Soldier-Brothers Killed in Action.

Intimation has been received by Mr Patrick Lambe, Old Bridge, Clonmel, that his son, Private Lambe, 2nd Leinster Regiment, was killed in France on the 5th inst by the explosion of a shell. Four brothers of the deceased are serving with the Colours, and another recently received his discharge through ill-health.

COLONEL REPINGTON TO BE PROSECUTED.

Statement by Mr Bonar Law.

In the House of Commons yesterday, Mr Fell asked the Chancellor of the Exchequer whether proceedings were to be taken in connection with an article by Lieutenant-Colonel Repington which appeared in the "Morning Post" of Monday last.

Mr Bonar Law—The article was submitted to the Law Officers on Monday, and it was decided on Tuesday morning to commence prosecution under the Defence of the Realm Regulations. (Cheers). The proceedings are being taken with all despatch.

Mr Lough—Was the article seen by the Censor before it appeared?

Mr Bonar Law—I do not know how far I can answer that, the matter being *sub-judice*; but I think I am entitled to say that it was submitted to the Censor, who refused publication. It was afterwards published in a different form without being submitted.

Mr Chancellor—Will the proprietors of the "Morning Post" be prosecuted?

Mr Bonar Law—The information has been lodged against the writer of the article and the editor of the newspaper, which is the usual course.

Mr Hogge—Is Colonel Repington in the Army?

Mr Bonar Law—I think he is not in the Army; but I should like notice of that question.

Mr Rendall asked why Colonel Repington was to be prosecuted, while the writers of many articles of a similar nature published in "The Times" were never prosecuted.

Mr Bonar Law—The question of similarity of nature is difficult to decide. This is by no means the first occasion on which articles have been submitted in the same way to the Law Officers of the Crown.

Mr Dundas White asked why the information did not include the proprietors and the publishers as well.

Mr Bonar Law—I believe the usual course was taken in this case.

Mr Percy Harris—Is the right hon gentleman aware that articles of a similar character have appeared for three-and-a-half years with impunity in "The Times," without any action being taken?

Mr Bonar Law—I do not see the relevancy of that. Assuming this article is criminal, every criminal may be a long time before he is convicted.

POSITION OF SIR WM. ROBERTSON.

Rumour has been busy this week with the name of Sir William Robertson and Sir Henry Wilson, writes the Parliamentary correspondent of the "Daily Chronicle." An idea prevailed that an exchange of offices might be effected between them, Sir William to be the principal representative of this country on the Supreme War Council at Versailles, and Sir Henry to succeed him as Chief of the Imperial General Staff. If any idea of that kind was at any time seriously entertained, it has now been abandoned. Sir William