

...of coal supplies to Ireland has been copying the attention of those interested in some considerable time. In March the Controller of Coal and Shipping in this country, Mr Burgess, called a meeting in Dublin of those interested in the import of coal and put the situation before them. It was made clear that supplies of coal into Ireland would be considerably restricted, and that drastic economy should be enforced owing to the insufficient number of ships remaining available for carrying coal to Ireland. As an outcome of this meeting zones or areas have been demarcated, and a committee is being formed in each area. The Coal Importers, together with the interests in the southern area met on Monday at Mallow (Mr E. J. Long, Limerick, in the chair) and formed a Committee to deal with the distribution of coal in this area, which consists all south of a straight line drawn from Limeisk to Gorey. A strong resolution was unanimously passed asking for an equitable allocation of coal to ships, and it will be the business of the Committee elected to see that the same are forthcoming, in time it is clear, owing to the huge reduction in the total imports, that coal supplies to the south of Ireland will be very considerably curtailed, and all users of coal, even from the best gas works to the humblest householder, earnestly requested to economise. In districts where turf and timber are available every effort should be made to secure during the summer months sufficient for winter needs, as, doubtless, various Committees handling the question of rationing will withhold from such districts consignments of coal which must be reserved for essential industries and the poor in populated areas.

Committee to look after the interests of the City has been formed.

THE CITY COAL SUPPLY.

A meeting of the local Coal Control Committee held in the Chamber of Commerce to-day. E. J. Long, President of the Chamber, and Chairman of the South of Ireland Area Committee presided. A programme was drawn up for submission to the meeting of the Area Committee, to be held at the Limerick Junction on Friday on 14th of Limerick. Considerable detail as to allocations into Limerick in 1913, and the quantities of coal used by Government controlled firms and firms producing food-stuff was considered. Circulars are to be prepared strongly urging private consumers to use no fuel between 1st and 31st March, as a reduction of 40 per cent in coal will be made with a view to saving tonnage. Schemes for distribution of coal in the city have been drafted, but not yet officially approved. They will be considered by a special committee, as stated, meets at the Limerick Junction to-day.

Paris "Journal" states that the rationing system, already tried in several communes, is about to become general throughout France. The Government will arrange with its respective municipalities to introduce a ration card in accordance with its particular needs.

...peace offers had recently been made, and there was no representative in London of a neutral country who had made tentative or informal suggestions of peace negotiations. Replying to inquiries as to the truth of the details printed above, Mr Balfour said he thought it was all a mare's nest.

Austrian Crisis.

Widespread Unrest.

Telegrams from Vienna, says Reuter's Zurich correspondent, indicate that the political crisis in Austria is becoming serious. The adjournment of Parliament is causing great unrest amongst the German-speaking labour classes of Bohemia and other Slav Crown lands. Slav members of Parliament have resigned.

THE HOUSING PROBLEM.

The "Daily Telegraph," commenting on Mr Hayes Fisher's statement in the House of Commons on the housing problem, says:—There is no denying Mr Fisher's proposition that the country ought to be prepared to start building operations on the largest scale immediately after the war. There is no possibility of private enterprise being able unaided to undertake the task on business terms. The cost of materials and labour will be out of all relation to the rents obtainable. Turning to the plan proposed by the Government, the "Telegraph" says: It is obvious a policy of this scope offers a wide field for criticism and in some particulars it cannot be considered satisfactory.

DEATH OF MR JAMES MURNANE.

The death, which is generally regretted in the city, took place at his residence, Thomondgate, this morning of Mr James Murnane, in his seventy-first year. The deceased, who was an old and respected citizen, was connected with the pig-baying trade for a long number of years. He was a keen business man and a general favourite with a wide circle of friends, who regret his death, and extend to his family their sympathy in their bereavement. The remains will be removed to St Munchin's R.C. Church at 9 o'clock this evening, and the funeral will take place at 3 o'clock on Thursday for Mount St Lawrence Cemetery.

LYHENAUM PICTUREDROME.

The audience at the Athenaeum last night keenly enjoyed the programme submitted. The principal feature was "The Selfish Woman," a four-reel drama, starring Oleo Ridgely and Wallace Reid in this great Lasky production of extraordinary fascination and marvellous power. The scenes from Palermo were decidedly entertaining and instructive, while the comedy "Worries and Wobles" proved an amusing film. Tomorrow and Thursday nights "The Yellow Pawn" will be shown, and on Friday and Saturday nights the celebrated film "The Money Mill," featuring the trans-Atlantic actress, Dorothy Kelly, will be shown.

Captain Redmond is accompanying to Ireland.

RESTRICTIONS ON RAIL TRAVEL.

Position of Horse-Race.

In the House of Commons yesterday Sir Albert Stanley, answering Mr (said he hoped shortly to have an opportunity of making a statement as regarded railway travelling. The question which he regretted it was necessary to raise should be continued was not considered by the War Cabinet. He was of the opinion that any special trains were run in connection with race meetings, but he thought that in order to deal with the traffic probably increased because of the fact that extra trains were being run. (Laughter.)

Mr Kennedy Jones—Is it not a fact that you cannot go to a race meeting to-day?

Sir Albert Stanley—You can walk.

THE "WINDSOR MAGAZINE."

The Minister of Pensions, Mr J. C. M.P., contributes to the May number of "Windsor Magazine" a valuable article on "The Training of Disabled Men for Independence," which includes some interesting facts and several important suggestions. The theme about which not much has been heard is treated in the same number in an article on "The Turkish Prisoners of War at Shwaburma," which is contributed by the late Captain Henry T. E. The course of his article Captain makes a number of interesting suggestions which are illustrated by a varied set of photographs. Another article is entitled "Heroes of the Naval Medical Service," by H. C. Ferraby. The fiction of the number varies as ever, and includes an exciting episode in the life of Wallace Reid, taken from the career of the famous actor, and his staff in West Africa. The romance was written by Captain Theodore Goodridge Roberts; a little love story of wartime, by J. A. S. Another topical story by Michael Keane makes a deep appeal to the reader's sympathy. Among other complete tales we have one by a very interesting writer, "The Story of Steel," and a powerful and dramatic one by Alan J. Thompson. This abundance of fiction is cleverly illustrated and brought to life by distinguished black and white artists. Some features of the number stand out as excellent all-round numbers.

SOUTH HEREFORD.

Polley (Coalition)	3
Prece (Farmers' Candidate)	1
Majority	1