

NOTICE TO ADVERTISERS

In consequence of the earlier departure of the evening trains from Limerick, and the curtailment of the hour for posting to p.m. at the General Post Office, it has been found necessary to issue the editions of the *Chronicle* at an earlier hour than hitherto. Advertisers will, therefore, please note that the latest hour at which advertisements can be received at this office on issue days is 3.30 p.m. Publication of any notices received after that hour cannot be guaranteed for that evening.

THE LIMERICK CHRONICLE

(ESTABLISHED 1766)

THURSDAY, MAY 20, 1920

THE COAL QUESTION.

The Dublin Chamber of Commerce, at its meeting this week, had under discussion some topics of keen interest and importance, not alone to industrialists but to the public generally. There was, for instance, the question of the supplies of coal from Great Britain to this country. From time to time strong complaint as to inadequate supplies have come from Dublin and various other parts of the country, but the shortage continues, despite the arrangement made by the Coal Controller some months ago to give Ireland an additional 40,000 tons a month over and above the 1919 figures. This would bring the import up to the level of 1914, which is regarded as the minimum of the country's requirements at the present day, but the fact is, as illustrated by statistics submitted by Mr Good, the Chairman of the Dublin Chamber, that for the present year there is a shortage of over 50,000 tons to the end of April. Insufficiency of shipping and other causes, including exports to other countries, have been given time and again as accounting for the very unsatisfactory position of affairs in Ireland with regard to the coal supplies. The Dublin Chamber of Commerce has been very active and watchful, with a view to the position being improved, and doubtless the promise of additional supplies to this country was largely due to the energetic action taken in Dublin. It is to be hoped that these supplies will come to hand immediately. Mr Good says it is too early to judge whether the withdrawal of direction by the Shipping Controller will help to increase the supplies or otherwise, but he added that "nothing could be more unsatisfactory than the conditions prevailing for some months past," which so urgently need redress at the hands of the official authorities. The General Committee of the Dublin Mercantile Association has also, it may here be noted, had the question under discussion. It called on the Government to increase the imported coal supply to this country; to develop the Irish coal mines, and also asked for the publication of the report

LIMERICK TRAGEDIES.

Police Sergeant Shot Dead.

ANOTHER WOUNDED.

Upper Mallow-street was the scene of a sensational shooting tragedy last evening. About half-past five o'clock two members of the police force, Sergeant Kearin Dunphy, and Sergeant P Harty, stationed in Ballinacurra Barracks, were attacked by an armed party estimated from three to five men with revolvers, and Sergeant Dunphy killed outright. His comrade, Sergeant Harty, was shot through the shin bone, which was fractured, and another bullet passed through the cheek, rendering his condition critical. From the particulars gathered it appears that the two sergeants came into the city during the day, and before proceeding to return to Ballinacurra they intended to visit the residence of Dr J Roberts, Upper Mallow-street, Sergeant Harty being on the sick list. They were not long in the neighbourhood when they were suddenly attacked by their assailants, who fired something like ten shots at them. At the time the street was practically deserted, but people living in the thoroughfare distinctly heard the firing, and it was only then realized that a terrible and deadly struggle was taking place in their midst. One of the sergeants, it is stated, returned the fire, but the conflict did not last long, about two minutes, terminating fatally in Sergeant Dunphy's case, and rendering the condition of Sergeant Harty extremely precarious. The former was shot through the neck and thigh, the carotid and femoral arteries being severed, causing almost instantaneous death. The assailants are said to have been uninjured, as they were seen after the dreadful occurrence running in the direction of the People's Park, through which they made good their escape. Immediately after the shooting, medical attendance was summoned, and a clergyman from the Dominican Priory was on the scene to administer the last Sacraments to the victims of the affray, who were lying in the channel course a few yards from Dr Roberts' residence. Sergeant Dunphy expired before the clergyman left him, and Sergeant Harty, who was visibly suffering acute pain, was attended by Fathers Thornhill and Hayes, as well as by the Dominican Father. Drs Kennaedy, Roberts, and Graham, gave all possible medical aid under the circumstances, but, as stated, Dunphy was then beyond human assistance. After the shooting, a large number of people collected in Upper Mallow-street, and were witnesses of the two sergeants being removed to the military hospital at the New Barracks.

It is stated that the actual shooting was not seen by any person outside of those concerned in the attack, which was executed with lightning rapidity, in broad daylight, and in a thoroughfare which is situated in the centre of the city.

Sergeants Dunphy and Harty had only been stationed in Ballinacurra a few months. Harty, who is married, has thirty years' service, and is aged about 50 years, while Dunphy was aged about 32 years, and fought in the late war, where he held a commission in the Leinster Regiment.

Further enquiries made to-day went to show that at least ten shots were fired by the attackers, and that very little time elapsed before the whole occurrence was over. It is stated that the shots were discharged from the opposite side of the street, and this is demonstrated by the marks on the iron railing outside the house where the sergeants were passing when the attack was delivered. One bullet travelled into the area of one of the houses, while others, fired from a distance, presumably on the assailants retreating, cut up the roadway.

day evening, when he left on Harty. The deceased was tall, healthy and sprightly. He Ballinacurra since the 3rd May, years of age (single).

The Coroner said he was were delayed owing to the following who were summoned Messrs William Herriott, Road; Patrick Coyle, merchant; Periam Graham, merchant; Maurice Counihan, Edward impose the full penalty of their non-attendance. The elected representative of the Corporation the elected people, and if it was the wis a Coroner's Court would be was willing to retire from forty-eight hours, and place hands of the citizens. While he would try to uphold the and allow no merchant, no treat this court with contempt to those in attendance at men in higher positions in ti within their right to tr contempt. If it was the generally to have no further inquiries, then let the court immediately; but while he carried on in proper order.

The inquest was adjourned Jane, at 3 o'clock, and the post-mortem examination he

Inquest on Jax

Mr J F Barry, J.P., City which Mr O Quilligan was inquest this evening in the ton's Hospital into the cause of the death of James Saunde Patriok street last night.

Sergeant Breen represented there was no professional acquaintance of kin of deceased.

Joseph Saunders, a regular gave evidence of identification was an ex-soldier, was 35 widower, who followed the labourer. He last saw him street at 10.40 last night.

Dr W P Dundon, House Hospital, stated that the dead the Institution at 11.45 last dead. He made an examination found a wound on the left and seventh ribs, and over the liver. In witness due to shock and laceration.

The Coroner—Did you what caused these wounds by rifle bullets.

Who brought the body in the Corporation ambulance.

In reply to the Coroner, had none of the ambulance.

The jury decided to adjourn week in the hope that a hospital who sustained occasion would be in evidence as to who fired the

SERGEANT HARTY RE

Sergeant Harty, Royal was wounded in the Upper affray last evening, was removed to the Military Hospital to I for special treatment.

IRISH SIT

More Troops