

are entitled to address any assemblage of their countrymen. They are of the race of the soil, they know their people intimately, the good, the courtesy, the love of display, that are peculiarly the attributes of Irishmen. They know their country, for it is their birthright, and their knowledge intensified by their long experience, won from every day observation and converse with their fellows. They know, too, from their own experience that there is not a scrap of material evidence or of fact for the allegations made at home and across the water respecting religious intolerance in the South of Ireland. And they admit it frankly and manfully. There is not, there never was, any religious intolerance in Southern Ireland. Saturday's meeting was a timely reminder of such, and the Peace Conference in Dublin should lay the bogeys which have been raised on the subject. Those who spontaneously held Saturday's assembly and for such a purpose, a meeting composed as it was of city merchants, business people, and county residents, have, in all the circumstances of a worrying time, done a great public service. They have stated their views, sound, sensible, and moderate views, and they must have weight and influence in shaping the course of events. They much need the application of a speedy remedy. They must help, too, in the disentanglement of the web, the artificial web in which the truth has been so long hidden. Some may be disposed to consider that a meeting of the sort, and such an expression of opinion, should have been held long since, but that does not affect their bearing on the issues at stake, and affecting, as they do, the future of the country, her people, her trade, and her industry, and in the most critical time through which Ireland is just now passing.

### CURRENT COMMENT.

#### Registrar-General's Report

The births and deaths registered in the Dublin Registration Area and in the eighteen principal provincial Urban Districts of Ireland, with the annual rates per 1,000 of the population represented thereby, which, for the purposes of these returns, is estimated at 1,167,268, are given in Table II of the Registrar-General's report for

monely carried out. This meeting was the instant release of the Lord Mayor of Cork, now lying at the point of death in Brixton Prison." The meeting concluded with cheers, and the singing of the "Red Flag." A man in the crowd stood in the lorry, which served as a platform, and advised the people the following day "to take a short cut and go to Shortt. Go to the Home Office in your thousands." There had been some preliminary incidents. A man with the Sinn Fein colours in his cap was marched off in charge of the police, and later another man was taken away in custody. The crowd was as dense as ever at 9.30, an hour after the meeting concluded, and at one point the trams were held up until the police came out and cleared the roadway. Shortly after 10 o'clock the crowds began to move, but there was an ugly rush at one corner of the police cordon guarding the approach to the prison. Stones began to fly, and in the scuffle two policemen and a plain clothes officer received injuries to the head, but these were stated not to be serious. At this stage the mounted police, with "sword-sticks," were brought into action to clear the crowd. This was immediately effective, but in the course of the operation, in an endeavour to move on a section of the demonstrators down Brixton Hill, two officers were unhorsed. A telegram received to day states that in last night's disturbances outside Brixton Prison thirteen police officers were injured, but none seriously.

### DEATH OF MR. H. F. O'DONNELL.

The death, which we announce with regret, took place at his residence, Killeedy, yesterday, of Mr Henry Francis O'Donnell, at a comparatively early age. The deceased was out riding during the morning, and as a result of his horse becoming restive, he was thrown off, and lived only three hours or so. He was son of the late Mr P O'Donnell, Baronial High Constable, and brother of the Rt Rev Monsignor O'Donnell, P.P., V.G., Rathkeale, and Mr P E O'Donnell, solicitor, Limerick. The late Mr O'Donnell farmed extensively, and was well known in the county, where he was greatly esteemed for his uprightness and generous qualities. To his widow and family the greatest sympathy will be extended to their bereavement. The funeral will leave Ashford at one o'clock (old time) to-morrow, for Killeedy the family burial place.

### LIMERICK HUNGER-STRIKERS REMOVED.

It is stated that prisoners on hunger-strike in Limerick Gaol have been removed to Cork prison. The prisoners, to the number of six, handed an ultimatum to the Governor on Sunday stating that unless they were released unconditionally they would refuse to take food from Monday last.

### PUBLIC LIGHTING AND CURFEW ORDER.

The Corporation Lighting Committee, at a meeting last night, gave instructions that all public lighting in the city was to be shut down at 10 o'clock in consequence of the operation of the Curfew Order.

### POSITION OF CITY NIGHT CONSTABLES.

At the meeting of the Corporation Committee

of the sum set aside for some equal parts to holders of the awarded under the present year. The meeting then separated.

### ARMS TAKEN FROM PARTY

A Queenstown Correspondent writes that at three o'clock yesterday when a party of the Cameron Highlanders, consisting of an officer and sergeant, was engaged in the demolition of a large disused wooden shed off Thomas street, in the town, the shed suddenly surrounded the soldiers by a party of military. The latter, it is stated, were completely surprised, tried to make their way to capture, but without success, which ensued the sergeant, who was captured, which, it is thought, may have been the result of the taking party, having seized the arms, etc., made off.

Assistance was immediately sent for a soldier, who was taken on a stretcher to a military hospital. An examination was made by Dr Hodges and an Army Medical Corps. It was stated that the soldier had sustained two wounds, one in the left lung, and a second in the heart. His condition is reported to be serious. After the occurrence, the commanding officer, in the absence of the commanding officer of the Cameron Highlanders, at the Belmont Barracks, tendered his sincere regret at the shooting, and the injured soldier.

### MRS O'BRIEN'S

The good work undertaken by Mrs O'Brien in distributing milk at a shilling a gallon to the poor of the city cannot be overpraised. The year ended 31st March she distributed pure and wholesome milk to the poor of the city at a gallon which in these times is a great boon. That the fund promoted by her is the support of everybody in the city is impressed upon the citizen by the winter subscriptions which she has secured so generously for the work so generously performed.

### ORDER RESTORED

The Nationalist quarter in the city town boundary was visited yesterday night. Household goods were looted and burned. Otherwise the order was restored. An armoured car with several soldiers was sent to the thoroughfare up till the Court yesterday two men were charged with larceny in the city. It is believed that the order is broken.

### CHEAPER

The long hoped for reduction in the price of cloth is at last imminent. "Men's Wear," Clothing Manufacturers are endeavouring to reduce the price of an early drop in price of Australian wool will soon be effected. The Government has nearly failed to reach the price which it offered for sale. With raw materials prices much

At the last meeting of the Union, the following resolutions were passed: