

Volturno river in anticipation of an Allied attack.

A later despatch from the Middle East says that a big battle is imminent in the Volturno Plain, where the Germans have massed 80,000 troops.

Messages from Moscow and Berlin state that heavy fighting is taking place on the three bridge-heads established on the Dnieper by the Russians.

The Moscow wireless stated this afternoon that Gomel is now seriously threatened following an encircling movement. It is claimed that the Red Army is advancing on the city from three directions, and that the advance guards on all points are less than 10 miles distant from their objective.

The German communique refers to heavy defensive fighting between the Sea of Azov and Zaphorzhe. It is claimed that Soviet counter-attacks were defeated with heavy losses.

DEATH OF RETIRED POSTMASTER

We regret to announce the death of Mr. John Normile, former Postmaster of the G.P.O., Limerick, who passed away yesterday at his residence, 17 St. Canice Road, Glasnevin, Dublin. The deceased, who had been ailing for some time back, was a native of the parish of Castlemahon, Co. Limerick, coming of highly-respected farming stock. He entered the postal service through examination early in life and had a very successful career. For a period, he was an active member of the Post Office Workers' Organisation and became its energetic secretary. In this latter position he played a prominent part in fighting for the rights and interests of postal officials. A very capable official, his promotion in the service was rapid. After the setting up of our own Government he was appointed Postmaster in Limerick in succession to the late Mr. John Twomey. When the Postmastership of Cork became vacant later he was promoted to that position, which he held up to his retirement on pension a few years ago. A man of a patriotic spirit and of many other fine qualities, he was held in high esteem by his postal confreres and the general public. The funeral will take place to-morrow (Tuesday) to Glasnevin Cemetery.

THE CARE OF CHILDREN

During last month 120 children were examined at the school clinic set up in the city in connection with the Schools Medical Service Scheme. Twelve children were sent for treatment for tonsils and adenoids; 30 for eye defects, and 65 for dental defects. There were 112 notifications under the Births

and he was approached by a masked man, who asked him to sell his stick. O'Brien refused, whereupon the man then put his hand into O'Brien's inside pocket and pulled out a packet containing bank notes. O'Brien immediately commenced to shout "Robber" at the top of his voice. The man abstracted four or five notes from the packet and threw the remainder back to O'Brien, saying "Here's your money for you," and disappeared. O'Brien got back £32 10s., but did not know the exact amount of money he had in the packet.

Close on twenty witnesses were examined and casts of footprints etc. were produced.

The accused denied that he had ever robbed anything from O'Brien. He was cross-examined as to statements he had made to the Guards, and he said that Guard Palmer said he was like Bernard Kirwan, the man who had murdered his brother, when making statements. As a result of that accusation by Guard Palmer, he had got into a "tremble" and did not know what he had been saying or doing. He had signed a statement that he had returned to his home at a certain hour, but that had been a lie—a large one.

Asked by the Judge why he had not told the proper time accused said that when compared to "that terrible man, Kirwan," he did not know what he had been asked.

The jury found accused not guilty and he was discharged.

TALKS FOR CHILDREN

In connection with the Children's Section of the Limerick Carnegie Free Library a series of talks for the children has been arranged for the coming winter. These talks, most of which will be illustrated, will take place each Wednesday night at 7 o'clock and will be confined to children between the ages of 10 and 16. Adults will not be admitted. Lecturers will include Mr. J. M. Flood, B.L., D.J.; Rev. M. Moloney, P.P., St. Patrick's; Mrs. M. O'Callaghan, Miss Roche-Kelly, Dr. Wyse Jackson, Mr. Paul Bernard, Mr. T. O'Sullivan, B.E., and the Librarian. Subjects will include History of Limerick, Folk-Tales of Limerick, Traditional Irish Music, Wild Flowers of the Countryside, Limerick and its Ships, etc., etc.

PARNELL REMEMBERED

To mark the 52nd anniversary of the death of Charles Stewart Parnell, a number of admirers went to Glasnevin Cemetery yesterday and laid wreaths on his grave. They also placed memorial wreaths on the Parnell Monument in Upper O'Connell Street. These included emblems from the Parnell Commemoration Committee and the Dublin and Wicklow Men's Association.