

The German News Agency today admitted that the Allied armies had broken into the German defensive lines at different points. According to official despatches from Moscow and Berlin, comparative quiet continues on the Western Front. During the night American and British bombers attacked Berlin and other military objectives in Germany and France.

DE VALERA'S CLARE VOTE

Mr. T. J. Keane, Fianna Fail Director of Elections, is confident that An Taoiseach, Mr. de Valera, will receive at this election in Clare the biggest vote of his political career (writes our Ennis correspondent). The number of candidates, told a Press correspondent, was small but this was not due to any reason. The people were concentrating more on the real issues, and the candidates representing sectional interests were not wanted for the time. The people now realised the big issues at stake and he is quite sure they would vote accordingly.

CHARGE OF STABBING FATHER

On a charge of having attempted to murder his father by stabbing him with a knife, Thomas Chawke, of Mitchelstown, was, at Moy, remanded in custody. The medical evidence was to the effect that Chawke's father, who refused to go to hospital, would not be out of danger for a month or six weeks. No wounds were found on the father.

FINED FOR BUYING COUPONS

At the Dublin District Court, Miss Jennie Piggott, Canning St., was fined £7 for buying exchange coupons from Elizabeth Dickson, the coupons being the property of another Dublin woman named Isabella Rooney. Six ounces of tea and 2/6 were exchanged for the coupons. Dickson and Rooney received suspended sentences of one month.

PLOTHOLDERS' GESTURE

They have been informed by Mr. Thomas Lyons, N.T., Secretary, Kilfinane Parish Council (writes our Ennis correspondent), that the plowholders are prepared to contribute one ton of potatoes to the Irish Red Cross Potato Fund. This scheme is being well worked and is considered the best operated in the county by voluntary workers.

THE BORRIGONE TRAGEDY

No new developments have taken place in connection with the finding of the dead body of Nora Meehan, aged 21 years, a domestic servant.

Deputy City Coroner, Mr. J. S. McNeice, solicitor, this afternoon.

On enquiry at the County Infirmary to-day it was learned that Mrs. Ryan is suffering from extensive burns to her arms and body, and although improving her condition is still regarded as critical.

MAN FOUND DEAD NEAR CROOM

At about mid-day on Tuesday last (writes our Croom correspondent), the dead body of a man was found inside the fence near Fanningstown Bridge, on the Croom-Patrickswell road. He was identified as Maurice Leeney, aged, 35, single, a hackney driver from near Bruree. The discovery was made by railway workmen, to whom deceased was speaking in the morning. Spiritual and medical aid were given immediately, but life was found extinct. An inquest will be held, and it is understood that the State Pathologist is to investigate the affair.

KILFINANE ANNUAL SHOW DANCE

The second annual show dance, held at the New Hall, Kilfinane, on last Sunday night, was most enjoyable and an outstanding success (writes our Kilfinane correspondent). An energetic committee had made careful and arduous preparations for the function and when upwards of 150 couples took the floor, to the strains of Billy Touhy's first class orchestra, every arrangement was perfect. Dancing was kept up with spirit until 3 a.m.

KILFINANE L.D.F. WHIST DRIVE

A very enjoyable whist drive under the auspices of Kilfinane L.D.F. was held in the New Hall, Kilfinane, on Thursday night of last week. The ladies first prize was won by Mr. David Noonan and ladies second prize by Mr. Patrick Doherty (both of whom played as ladies). Gents first prize, Mr. Corkery, Laurencetown; second prize divided between Mr. Patrick Brazzill and Mr. Thomas O'Shea.

AIRPORT PRESENTATION

On the occasion of his departure from the Shannon Airport, Foynes, where he has been stationed for the past three years, Mr. H. Watson, acting station manager, British Overseas Airways Corporation, was presented with a Paul Henry painting by members of all sections of the B.O.A.C. staff at Foynes. Mr. Watson has been replaced by Mr. B. L. Nelson.

THRESHING MILLS

The hiring of portable threshing machines this season will be regulated by an Order of the Minister for Agriculture. They must be licensed and kept in efficient working order. Loss of grain through faulty threshing will render the licensee liable to penalties.

Mr. Loughey—it should be encouraged.

The C.E.O. said that the Committee could express their keen disappointment at the Minister's decision.

DOMESTIC ECONOMY.

The C.E.O. said that the Committee had sent a proposal to the Department about the establishment of a domestic economy scholarship for students attending the part-time classes at the school. He had since received a letter from the Department informing them that the Minister could not see his way to sanction the proposal.

Chairman—Will he sanction anything at all?

Mr. Casey—Will we make use of that at the election? (laughter).

Mr. O Tuathaigh remarked that the refusal meant the cutting out of a very fine type of candidate.

Father O'Brien said that it would facilitate girls who could not afford to go away to a boarding school and who could come to classes in the evening at the school.

The C.E.O. was directed to obtain further information on the subject.

SCHOOL OF MUSIC.

St. Michael's Parish Council of Muintir na Tire wrote suggesting the establishment of a school of music in connection with the City Vocational School. It appeared that under the Vocational Education Act such schools of music existed in Dublin and Cork, but only in these cities could municipal funds be devoted to the teaching of music. The Council was anxious to know if this was the case and if any practical steps could be taken to have it remedied.

The C.E.O. said that this matter had been dealt with on innumerable occasions, and at the Tralee Congress in 1938 they had a resolution passed in reference to it.

Father O'Brien—I can see that the Vocational Education Act provides that Committees may have certain types of instruction and outside of this you need an Act of the Oireachtas to make anything legitimate. Is there any other machinery?

The C.E.O. said that the Act gave the Minister certain power and in their resolution to the Tralee Congress they asked the Minister to extend it, but he had not done so. He would reply to the Council pointing out the steps which had been taken up to the present.

Father O'Brien said that in places like Dublin there were musical academies where pupils had the chance of studying, but in Limerick there were no means, apart from local facilities.

The C.E.O. said that at the passing of the Act there was a saving clause for Dublin and Cork which had established municipal schools of music, to carry on their schools.

Mr. Casey—When we first initiated discussions on this five or six years ago it met with hostile criticism from music teachers in the city and there were letters to the Press about depriving them of their livelihood.