



NOTICE TO ADVERTISERS

In consequence of the earlier departure of the evening train from Limerick, and the curtailment of the hour for posting to 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, APRIL 21, 1921

THE COAL CRISIS.

The public are disappointed to say the least that no settlement has as yet been reached with respect to the miners' dispute. The crisis drags wearily along, though the miners seem divided as to their policy or course of action. A very large section of them is, undoubtedly, against compromise on the questions of the National wage and the proposed "pooling" system, but the possible revision of wages on a district basis is still being discussed by the Miners' Association. The Labour Party appear to think that an agreement might be reached if the demand for a National pool were dropped, and it remains to be seen if the miners will moderate their demands in that respect. The most hopeful feature in the situation is the announcement made yesterday that the mine owners are prepared to discuss if not an entirely new offer at any rate an important modification of the wage scales already worked out. It is generally to be hoped that this will have the effect of throwing oil on the troubled waters and bringing to a speedy determination a dispute which is seriously affecting the industries of the country and gravely adding to the ranks of the unemployed. Ireland is experiencing her own share of the trouble by the restricted train services that the railway companies have had to put into force in order to conserve the existing supplies of coal, while we are also faced with the possibility of a serious shortage of coal in the not distant future if the crisis is not ended soon. Its effects across Channel are, as might be expected, very severely felt, and the general industrial outlook is sufficiently serious to cause grave apprehension as to the consequences of a prolonged strike in the coal trade. Curtailment of industrial activity is most marked in the iron and steel centres. Some big works have closed down entirely, while in others it is feared that a large number of hands will have to be placed on short time immediately. The cotton trade, which, after months of depression, had begun to show signs of an early improvement, is also affected by the stoppage, and so on with regard to other industries that usually afford large employment. The effect of the mining dispute on the economic life of the country is, therefore, manifest, and should the trouble continue for another fortnight the results, it need hardly be said, will be far more serious than they are at the present. We shall, of course, have more conferences between the parties directly concerned and with the Government, and one must only hope that a basis for a firm settlement of the miners' wages will be the result before many days have passed.

P.Y.M.A GIFT SALE.

There was a large attendance of city and county residents at the P.Y.M.A. this afternoon, when the Gilt Sale was graciously opened by the Lady Inghinich. The Lecture Hall, in which the stalls are situated, and of which particulars were given in a previous issue, presented a brilliant spectacle, the happy mingling of colour and the solemnity of decoration producing a most pleasing effect.

MILITARY OPERATION IN ENNIS.

Three Houses Destroyed. General Military Headquarters reports that in view of the number of a sergeant of the Royal Scots Regiment at Ennis on Sunday afternoon had the following houses destroyed in Ennis on Tuesday as a military operation. The houses were destroyed by the Royal Scots, and the houses were destroyed by the Royal Scots.

SOUTHERN ELECTIONS.

A meeting, composed mostly of Unionists, in the House of Commons yesterday, argued the postponement of the elections in Southern Ireland.

FUNERAL OF MR DENIS O'DONOVAN.

The funeral of the late Mr Denis O'Donovan took place yesterday afternoon from Castleconnell Catholic Church for Limerick. The remains were conveyed to the city by motor, and were interred in the cemetery at 11 o'clock.

CASTLECONNELL TRAGEDY.

Military Court of Enquiry Adjourned.

The Military Court of Enquiry into the circumstances connected with the fatal shooting of Mr Denis O'Donovan, proprietor of the Shannon Hotel, Castleconnell, Temporary Cadet Pringle, and Sergeant Hughes, R.I.C., at Castleconnell, on Monday evening, was formally opened at the New Barracks, Limerick, yesterday morning.

To-day's Proceedings.

The enquiry was resumed this morning at 11 o'clock in the New Barracks. Mr H. Moran, solicitor, represented the next-of-kin of the late Mr Denis O'Donovan.

THE COURT'S SYMPATHY WITH MRS O'DONOVAN.

The President—Before opening the proceedings I should like to express deep sympathy on the part of the Court with Mrs O'Donovan for the sad loss that has fallen upon her.

Distraught Inspector Grady—On behalf of the police of the County Limerick I desire to associate myself with the Court's expression of sympathy.

A Civil Engineer, examined, gave evidence of the plans of the scene of the tragedy.

A Military Officer in his evidence stated that having heard that an ambush was being prepared in the Limerick-Birchhill road on the 16th inst.

The President—It is well to get that out.

Continuing, the witness said that on the 16th inst. he entered the hotel by the main door, and after a short interval he heard firing. At the same time three civilians ran out by the south door.

The President—Were any of your party masked?—No. I have not seen a mask since I was in the shop.

Continuing, the witness said he then rushed into the shop, and went in the direction of the window. When he got to where the telephone was installed he brushed to the back door, where he was told by one of his men not to pass for O'Donovan's.

The President—Did you see them fall?—Yes.

The President—I want to tell you that there will be no more questions asked of you today. They were taken out and shot?—Yes, sir.

The President—What was your general impression of the numbers against you?—I had no means of knowing. I certainly thought there were more in the bar than there were.

The President—When did you hear that it was Mr O'Donovan that was shot?—Later by the maid, who asked me if the boss was shot.

Answering the Court, the witness said if he had any doubts as to the truth of the statement, and sent for a doctor and tried to attend one of the wounded men.

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STOP PRESS NEWS

The President—When did you first see in that the man lying in the yard was Mr O'Donovan?—About five minutes later.

STOP PRESS NEWS

The President—Are you sure those were your orders?—That was my impression.

STOP PRESS NEWS

The President—Did you see what happened in the yard?—No.

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