KNOCKLONG TRAGEDY.

Three Civilians Tried.

Dublin, Tuesday.

At the City Hall, Dublin, to-day, before a Field General Courtmartial, three young men named Patrick Maher, Edmond Foley, and Michael Murphy, all residing in the Knocklong district of Co Limerick, were charged with having, at Knocklong, on May 14th, 1919, wilfully, maliciously, and with malice aforethought killed Sergt Peter Wallace, of the Royal Irish Constabulary. There was an alternative charge of manslaughter.

When arraigned the accused emphatically declared themselves not guilty. They were represented by Mr Patrick Lynch, K.C.; Mr Richard Best, K C and Mr Joseph O'Connor (instructed by Mr J J Power, solr, Kilmallock).

An application was made by Mr Lynch to have the prisoner (Murphy) tried separately. He was a man who could tell the Court a good deal about what happened in Knocklong on the night in question. Murphy, he added, was a man who had a distinguished service with the Irish Guards in France. He was wounded and invalided home. His commanding officer and others spoke very highly of him. He could be produced as a witness, and in the interests of justice it was essential that his trial should be postponed.

Counsel for the prosecution was agreeable, so long as Murphy would be produced as a witness.

The Court acceded to Mr Lynch's request, and the trial of the prisoner (Murphy) was accordingly postponed.

The prosecuting Counsel opened the case against Foley and Maher, after which evidence was gone into and the Court adjourned to this morning.

MR LLOYD GEORGE AND IRISH TRUCE,

Mr Lloyd George, answering a question asking him to call an Irish truce, said in the House of Commons yesterday that the Government would be willing to meet any persons authorised to speak on behalf of the majority of the people of Ireland to discuss this matter.

The Prime Minister shook his head when asked by Mr Hogge whether there are any negotiations in progress.

CROSS-CHANNEL MAILS DELAY.

Case of Limerick and Cork.

In the House of Commons,

Lieut-Col Walter Guinness asked the Postmaster-General whether he was aware that mails, though leaving London at the same time as in 1914, are later in reaching places in Ireland by periods ranging from one hour in the case of Cork, to one hour and twenty minutes in the case of Limerick; that afternoon trains connecting with the night mail to England now leave these places at least three-quarters of an hour earlier, thus making it impossible to reply by return of post to English letters on the day they are received; and whether he can explain this decrease of efficiency and say when the Post Office will again be able to give the public arrangements as convenient as those enjoyed before the war.

Mr Pike Pease, replying, said that as regarded

A VESSEL IN DISTRESS.

Heroism of Quilty Fishermen.

Our Kilrush correspondent writes:—The "Alma Hein," a German three masted schooner left Hamburg some time ago, bound for Galway with a cargo of salt, and was driven in at Quilty on Thursday, 3rd March, about 2 o'clock in the afternoon. Distress signals were sent up all night from the ship, as the ship was in a perilous position, and nothing could be done until three fishermen—Thomas Boyle, Austin Boyle, and Pat Kelliher—volunteered to go out in the raging sea in a frail canoe at 8 o'clock in the morning. They made several attempts to reach the vessel, the weather being so rough, and only one of them, Thomas Boyle, was with great risk hauled on board, without boots, and only trousers and jersey on, by means of a rope which was thrown from the ship. The other two men had to return to the shore, as the canoe was in great danger of capsizing or being dashed to pieces against the ship. When Boyle got on board he found most of the crew of seven were unwell after their trying experience, and the vessel was drifting on to the rocks, as she lost one anchor during the night which weighed 6 cwts and 90 fathoms of chain. Boyle advised the captain to put his vessel to sea, but the captain thought she would not stand the weather, and did not know the dangerous coast as well as Boyle, so the captain decided to put to sea and Boyle was taken to pilot the vessel to Galway. They arrived at Inisheer Island about half-past six o'clock on Friday evening, and the vessel was brought to anchor in Galway Bay. The captain on arrival at Galway thanked Boyle for piloting his vessel under extraordinary circumstances from Seafield Point to Inisheer Island. These men, with others, distinguished themselves at the time of the wreck of "Leon XIII," in October, 1907. Boyle served in the Navy during the war, and was torpedoed four times. The Coastguards were on the scene at the time the ship was in distress but could render no assistance. A tug was wired for and came in search of the vessel, which had by that time arrived safely at her destination. These three fishermen deserve the greatest credit in saving the crew and ship, and it is hoped that their gallant and heroic action will be brought under the notice of the Royal Humane Society.

Lloyd's agents at Kilrush were in constant communication with Quilty, and wired to Queenstown for a tug, and did all in their power for the safety of the ship and crew.

COUNCIL OF AGRICULTURE.

Important Matters Discussed

Bishop of Ross and Irish Peace.

The annual meeting of the Council of Agriculture was held in Dublin yesterday. The President (Mr Barrie, M.P). in his address, covered a wide field. In regard to the new Parliaments, the Government had asked the Department to segregate the work as between the North and South. He said the County Committees had co-operated admirably with the Department, and on the dairying question, said the Department, so far as lay in their power, would give attention to the recommendations of the findings of the Committee which had made a report on the subject. He said as regarded the flax, the demand had declined, but farmers should continue to sow flax

STOP PRESS N

BOLSHEVIKS CAPTURE SEA TOWN.

Reuter's Agency learns that ac British telegram from Batoum th have taked the Georgian town of Black Sea. The Georgian army is struggle.

SPORTIN

LINCOLN MEET

GAUTBY PLA

Recruiter (Whalley)	...
Couplet (Evans)	...
I.O.U (Piper)	...

Also ran—Blet and Arctic

Betting—5 to 4 on Couplet, 7 t