

Brown stated—these rumours should not be allowed to disturb the smooth running of our business in any way. I want to emphasise the fact once again that Todds will carry on in the same manner as heretofore. I would like to add that I am very much impressed by the new members of our Board, and I feel confident on my return to Limerick to-day that we will get on together with the greatest of success."

LETTER TO STAFF

This morning, the staff of Todds, numbering over 200, re-

GUARANTEED AND PAYMENT CONTINUED OF PENSIONS TO PERSONNEL ALREADY RETIRED. I AM CONFIDENT THAT THE MERGER WILL PROVE MOST BENEFICIAL TO ALL CONCERNED, AND IS IN THE BEST INTERESTS OF THE COMPANY AND ITS EMPLOYEES.

"This letter is to keep you informed of the situation and to set at rest any possible misgivings you might have regarding your personal position."

TERMS OF TODD TAKE-OVER DEAL ANNOUNCED

SWITZERS of Grafton Street, Dublin, confirmed last night that they have taken over Todds of Limerick. The purchase price announced was £265,351.

A statement by the Board of Switzer's said that they had concluded arrangements for the whole issued share capital of William Todd and Co. Ltd.

The Switzer Directors expect to be able to pay the same final dividend, namely 10 p.c. less tax, in respect of the year to January 31 next, on the Ordinary capital as increased following the acquisition of Todd and Co.

Switzers have been advised by S. G. Warburg and Co., Ltd. in respect of the acquisition, the purchase consideration of which is 221,126 Ordinary 5/- Stock Units of Switzers. At yesterday's closing price of 24/- for the Stock Units, this puts a value of about £265,351 on the deal.

DEVELOPMENT SCOPE

The Board of Switzers are satisfied that the purchase has been made on advantageous terms, having regard to the past record of earnings (last year's profit before tax being £32,629) and the net assets of William Todd & Co., and that this new acquisition offers scope for development in Limerick, and at the same time this old-established business remains in Irish hands.

To round off the issued

capital of Switzer & Co. shares converted into £718-10-0 Ordinary Stock have been issued for cash to S. G. Warburg & Co. which brings the issued Ordinary share capital to £500,000.

Mr. Andrew Browne will continue as Managing Director of Todd and Miss M. Hamilton Reid, Mr. James A. Chapman and Mr. H. J. Osman, Directors of Switzers, have been co-opted to the Todd Board.

It is the intention of Switzers that the business of Todd in Limerick will be continued and, where possible, expanded, maintaining the highest standards of the trade.

Switzers have also undertaken that the existing interests of all employees in Todd and Co. will be safeguarded and payment continued of pensions to personnel already retired.

PROPOSED CHANGES IN ADOPTION LAWS

Changes in the adoption law are proposed in legislation which will come before the Dail shortly. It proposes that married couples where each partner has attained the age of 25 years may now adopt a child. Under the 1952 Act the age was stipulated at 30 years. The provision that the couple must have been married for at least three years remains

Supt. T. Griffin, Adare, prosecuted, and defendant, who pleaded not guilty, was represented by Mr. T. O'Brien Kelly, solicitor.

Dr. M. Maloney, Limerick Regional Hospital, said he examined the boy when he was admitted to the hospital on July 14, and found he had a fracture of the mid shaft of the left femur (arm).

The boy also had bruising of the left side of the face and on the poll.

CONCUSSED

Witness also found that the child was mildly concussed. He was bleeding from the nose also. An x-ray of the skull showed no evidence of fracture. The boy received treatment for these injuries and was later transferred to the Orthopaedic Hospital at Croom for further treatment. The boy was four years of age and witness was of opinion that for a boy of this age the injuries described could scarcely be regarded as serious.

Thos. Ryan, Church Street, Askeaton, deposed that at about 6 p.m. on July 14, while sitting on the side of the road at Church Street opposite the petrol pumps he saw two young Harte children playing on the ground outside the Church gate along side witness.

He then saw one of the children walk across the road towards the footpath on the opposite side. He also saw a car coming from the Foynes direction. He didn't notice anything wrong with the car but the next thing he saw was the child being struck and knocked down.

BUMPER HIT

The centre of the front bumper, as far as witness could see, hit the child. A doctor was called to the scene and the child was later removed to hospital. At the time of the accident the child was three or four feet from the motorist's left hand side.

Cross-examined by Mr. O'E Kelly witness said when he first saw the boy crossing the road he was facing the centre of the road. The motor car was then about 15 yards away more or less on the centre of the road. He was quite sure the child did not run across the road to his father. The child was walking across the road when witness first saw him.

Mr. O'E Kelly at this stage asked Justice J. P. Feran to refuse informations on the ground that there was no evidence of serious injury.

The Justice said it was quite clear from the medical evidence that the doctor did not regard the injuries as serious. Accordingly he refused informations on the charge of driving at a speed and manner dangerous to the public.

The defendant was then di-

IRISH TRANSPORT AND GENERAL WORKERS' UNION

(Limerick Branch)

We regret to announce the death of our National