

(Continued from page 280.)

proposal to vote half a million this year was absurd.

Mr Monk said that was not asked, only suggested. The Government should take a vote sufficient to complete the whole of the work, spending the money at such a rate as they deemed prudent.

The Minister for Works said the Government admitted the Main Trunk Railway was most important, and that it ought to be proceeded with as fast as possible, but, pending the allocation of money, he would not go into details.

Mr Massey said he thanked the Ministers, though he could not say he was pleased with the result of the interview.

#### A COUNTER MOVE.

A deputation of South Island members waited on Sir Joseph Ward, and informed him that they had passed a resolution recommending that no larger relative appropriations be voted this session for railway construction than was voted last session. They did not want to force the hands of the Government. All they wanted was that in allocations a fair proportion should be observed.

Sir Joseph Ward said the representations of the deputation would have the fullest consideration. A request had been made to him that morning to increase the loan proposals by a quarter of a million, to which he gave a refusal. The proposals of the Government were as much as the colony should go in for for carrying out public works at the present time. That North Island Trunk line should be finished at the earliest possible date they would readily admit, but they might depend on it that the Government would do that which it believed to be fair to the colony as a whole. He was inclined to think that proposals in Public Works Statement would be found to be fair and reasonable.

#### BURGLARS AT WORK.

While Newmarket was quietly sleeping on Saturday night, burglars were doing things in a wideawake and comprehensive fashion. With the aid of the tram company's tools, an axe borrowed from Mr Milligan's back yard, and a horse and trap belonging to Mr Kilgour, they satisfactorily removed and emptied the safe of Mr Cawkwell, chemist, and got clear with the contents, £3 and coins and £3 worth of stamps.

Emboldened by the success of Saturday night's raid on Mr G. Cawkwell's premises, at Newmarket, as detailed above, the thieves were again abroad last night, and again their efforts met with the desired result. They came a little nearer town for the second venture, Parnell being the suburb selected. The Windsor Castle Hotel, on the Manukau Road, the highway of the borough, was the scene of the robbery, which was one of the most daring ever carried out in the city. An easy entrance was effected through one of the gratings, through which the stock is passed into the cellar. This grating, which is in Windsor Lane, along which the northern side of the building runs, was left unlocked, and lifting it up the burglars entered the cellar, and once there had but to lift the trap-door leading into the bar to be safely and quietly inside.

The first intimation that anything was wrong was received at three o'clock this morning, when a dull, booming sound, which woke up the licensee (Mr Patrick Gleeson) and everyone else in the house, was heard. Instantly guessing what had happened, Mr Gleeson, accompanied by his son rushed to the bar. Some little delay in entering this was caused owing to the key having to be sent for, and by the time the bar was opened they found it full of the fumes of dynamite, but there was no sign of the person who had fired the charge. When the fumes had cleared away and the gas was lit the bar was seen to be in a state of great disorder. The thief, or thieves, had taken every precaution to deaden the sound as much as possible. To this effect a large quantity of wet clay had been plastered over the front of the safe,

which was situated in the corner of the bar, and was bricked into the wall. A number of books were put in front of the clay, and these were supported by several cases of spirits. The door of the safe was blown open by the explosion, but, as indicated above, the precautionary measures were insufficient, and the noise awoke the whole house, as well as the residents of the immediate vicinity, one living as far away as a hundred yards being awakened.

Knowing that the position was no longer tenable the thieves made a hasty search through the safe, and securing one bag whose weight was sufficient proof of its contents they made off, escaping through the bar window into Windsor Lane. Mr Gleeson, junr., seeing this window open on his arrival jumped through it and set up a cry of "Thief," but the visitors had got safely away and nothing was seen of them. An examination of the safe showed that a bag containing about ninety pounds in gold, five and ten pound notes and cheques was missing, but that a second bag containing about £35 in one pound notes had not been secured. A bar till containing a small sum had been opened and its contents taken out. The till itself was found near the billiard-room, in another part of the premises, showing that the gang must have been prospecting round the ground floor of the house. A second till which contained 30/ was not touched.

At the present time there is an abnormal criminal population in Auckland, in fact, from inquiries made among the police, it is evident that the number is double the average for the last five years. These men are, of course, well known to the police, many of them having convictions recorded against them for breaking and entering, robbery with violence, and similar crimes. Many of them are local men, others have come here in connection with the works at present in progress in the city, and others, again, are those who regularly come to Auckland from the South for the winter months, preferring the milder climate of the North. The police have a very good idea as to who the thieves in the present cases are, but, of course, the difficulty of sheeting home the gull is very great.

In his last report to the department Inspector Cullen stated that twelve additional constables were required in Auckland city to bring the force up to its working requirements, and that an additional constable was also required at Devonport, Karangahape, Newmarket, Parnell, Ponsonby and Waikiki. The inadequacy of the present force is instanced in Parnell and Devonport. These two stations, each with a population of about 5000 souls, have but two constables, and Newmarket has only one. Additional men are urgently needed if the city is to be efficiently protected, it being a matter of impossibility for the present force to properly overtake the work. It may be mentioned that in New Zealand the proportion of police to population is one to 1375; in Victoria it rises to 1 in 815; in New South Wales, 1 in 1013; and in West Australia it rises to 1 in 353. The cost per head, too, is very much less in New Zealand than in any of the Commonwealth States. Here it is 2/10, in Victoria 4/5, in New South Wales 5/9, and in West Australia 13/11.

#### THE SHOOTING OF CONSTABLE GUILFOYLE.

The following account of the recent shooting of Constable Guilfoyle at Sydney (the sequel to which was the fatal affair at Queanbeyan) is from Australian papers to hand.

A cold blooded and deliberate crime was committed in Sheppard-street, Redfern, on Saturday night, when Senior Constable Denis Guilfoyle was shot dead, and his assisting officer, Constable Michael Maher, severely wounded, while attempting to arrest two criminals for passing counterfeit coins.

Two men had been engaged during the evening in passing spurious half-crowns among small grocery shops in the neighbourhood, but unfortunately for them all their home

made coins were not allowed to pass without question, and this led them into conflict with the police. A local tradesman, Mr H. Gardner, of Ivy-street, where they got half-a-dozen boxes of matches and 3/4 in change, discovering that the coin tendered was a base one, set out to see what direction the men had taken.

Senior Constable Guilfoyle came along at this stage, and on being informed of what had taken place set out in pursuit. In the meantime two men had visited three other shops in the same street, and they were seen by Guilfoyle and Mr Gardner coming out of Mr J. J. Fahey's grocer's shop. At this point Guilfoyle was joined by Constable Maher, who, in plain clothes, was proceeding to the Redfern police station to begin duty. Following the men, who were of respectable exterior, they saw them enter Mr W. H. Chandler's grocery store at the corner of Calder Road and Sheppard-street. The officers allowed them to leave, and when they were in Sheppard-street, Guilfoyle stepped up to one of them, who had come to a standstill in a shaded spot, and Constable Maher approached his confederate.

Guilfoyle, addressing his man, said, "What's your name," at the same time placing his hand on the man's shoulder. "Wilson," was the response, and without warning he drew a revolver from his overcoat pocket and fired two shots in quick succession, one of which took effect in the officer's abdomen, passing upward near his heart, and the other penetrated the left shoulder. Guilfoyle dropped, mortally wounded. Almost simultaneously with the shooting of Guilfoyle, the murderer's companion fired at Maher, who at the time was within a few yards of his man, and was quite unprepared for an attack of any kind. The bullet entered Maher's right arm, near the shoulder, and he fell face downwards in the street gutter. While he lay in that position half stunned by the fall and shock from the wound, the ruffian fired at him several times. One shot penetrated his left shoulder and came out near his chin, inflicting a dangerous wound.

The sound of firearms and the groans of the wounded men brought hundreds of people to the scene. Guilfoyle was quickly placed on a mattress, but after moaning for a short time he expired. Maher had struggled in a semi-conscious condition from one side of the street to the other. He was then placed in a cab and taken to the Prince Alfred Hospital. His wounds were dressed, and he was hurried into bed, being rather weak from loss of blood and shock.

Later on Maher was able to give an account of the affair. When he met Guilfoyle the latter said that two men had been passing counterfeit coins, and had just gone along Calder Road. "I walked," he said, "along with him, and we turned into Sheppard-street, where we saw two tall, well built men in fawn overcoats, standing on the left side of the street. Guilfoyle said to me, 'You get one of the men and I'll get the other.' He went to the nearest man, and I turned my attention to the other, some 10 feet further along the street. I heard Guilfoyle ask his name, and heard him reply, 'Wilson.' I also noticed him suddenly draw something from a pocket, and a moment later heard two reports in quick succession, and saw Guilfoyle fall on his back on the footpath. Almost simultaneously with the shots the man whom I was approaching also drew a revolver and fired at me before I could close with him. The bullet struck me on the right arm, near the shoulder. The shock caused me to fall on my face. I attempted to get up, but had only got my hands and knees when he fired again. This time the bullet took effect in the near shoulder blade, and, coming through, struck me on the chin. I fell again on my face, and he fired once more, but, fortunately, missed me. I struggled across the street, and asked someone to go to the police station and report the matter."

Two hundred pounds reward is offered for the capture of the murderers of Constable Guilfoyle. Both are well known to the police, and are

supposed to be lying low in Sydney.

Constable Guilfoyle's murderers are supposed to be hiding in the bush in the Hornsby district. A large force is scouring the place. A letter, a false moustache, and a paper containing an account of the murder have been found in a shed at Balmalm, where a man supposed to be one of the suspects was seen leaving. The writer states that he and a friend got a job stoking on the Westralia, leaving Melbourne to-night, and booked berths for two others mentioned. He adds a boat leaves for "Old Dart" four days after the steamer reaches New Zealand. He indirectly refers to the crime, and warns the receiver that he is prepared to die fighting rather than face the hangman.

Two men, suspected in connection with the shooting of Constable Guilfoyle, were surprised by the police near Queanbeyan. A constable called on them to surrender. One raised a rifle as the constable covered him with his revolver.

The constable shot him dead. The other man was captured.

Until the police, who left Sydney to-night, arrive at Queanbeyan, the question of identity of the suspect shot dead by a constable remains in doubt, but there are grave fears for a doubting Constable Guilfoyle's murderer has resulted in a second tragedy.

A telegram from Yass to-night states that there are good reasons for believing that the man shot and his companion are two chairmen who have been touring the district. They left Yass in the direction of Queanbeyan on Wednesday last. The description of the man shot supplied to the police, while tallying in some respects with one of the suspects, also tallies with one of the chairmen named Heaps. He was accompanied by a youth, and the prisoner is a youth answering the description of Heaps' companion, whereas the second suspect is middle-aged.

The police are still actively searching the Hornsby district. There is considerable excitement amongst outlying residents.

There now appears little doubt the wrong man was shot at Queanbeyan. His companion gives the name of John Nichols, of Cooma, and a wire from Cooma states that from the description given he is undoubtedly the son of a local tinsmith. He left Cooma some time ago in company with another young man on a trading tour.

When Constable Madden went to arrest the men he was accompanied by a number of civilians.

It is alleged that when he was stooping over the deceased to take his firearms from him the constable's revolver went off simultaneously with a shot gun discharged by a bystander. This accounts for the number of shot wounds found in the body. Deceased closely resembles one of the missing suspects who are wanted for Guilfoyle's murder.

At the inquest held in connection with the Queanbeyan tragedy the evidence of officers from Sydney clearly established that the dead man was not one of the suspects.

Constable Madden, who was with a party of five civilians, all armed, who surprised the camp, deposed that when called upon to surrender, deceased sprang from under the bed-clothes and grasped a gun. Witness was trying to secure him when his revolver went off accidentally. Immediately after he heard a second shot. Next morning he examined two of the shotguns carried by the party, and discovered that they had been recently fired. One, his own property, he knew to be clean when he handed it to a civilian.

It has practically been established that deceased was a man named Heaps. He resided near Sydney, and was travelling in the country chairmending. His companion, Nichols, is a boy of 14, a resident of Cooma. He was discharged from custody.

Clarke's B B Pills are warranted to cure Graves, Pains in the back, and all kindred complaints. Free from Mercury. Established upwards of 30 years. In boxes of 6d each, of all Chemists and Patent Medicines Vendors throughout the World. Proprietors, The Lincoln and Midland Counties Drug Company, Lincoln, England.