

THE LIMERICK CHRONICLE

(ESTABLISHED 1768)

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LIMERICK TRAGEDY.

CHEMIST'S ASSISTANT SHOT DEAD.

A sensational shooting tragedy occurred in the city last night, involving the death of Mr Thomas Blake, an assistant chemist at Messrs. Laird and Co., 118 O'Connell-street. Mr Blake, who resided with his mother, brother, and sister at Alphonse-avenue, close to the Redemptorist Church, left business some time after six o'clock. When he got to the top of O'Connell-avenue he cut across Charles-street, an ill-lighted thoroughfare. What occurred after that is a matter of pure conjecture, but at ten minutes to seven or thereabouts his body was found lying in the footpath midway in the Clyde-road. The body was then warm, but with little symptoms of life in it. Word was promptly sent to the Redemptorist monastery close by, and one of the community priests attended and administered the last rites of the Church. Meantime the Corporation ambulance arrived and took the body to Barrington's Hospital, where, on examination, life was pronounced extinct by the resident surgeon, Dr W. P. Dundon. A further examination disclosed that death was due to bullet wounds. There were two wounds in the upper portion of the right arm, one on the right side underneath the ribs. A wound on the top of the left breast from which a bullet was taken, and another below that position where a bullet is embedded under the skin. There is also a bullet under the skin beneath the ribs at the left side.

A singular feature of the shocking tragedy is that few people heard the shots, it being stated that three in all were fired.

Police visited the hospital subsequently and viewed the body, and a military inquiry in lieu of an inquest will be held.

The deceased was about twenty-seven years of age, was a quiet inoffensive young fellow, and the utmost sympathy is felt for his widowed mother and family in their terrible affliction.

The body was to have been removed this evening from the hospital by the relatives, the military authorities having given the necessary permission.

DEATH OF MISS SCALES.

Result of Military Inquiry.

A report issued by Dublin Castle says—A Military Court of Inquiry in lieu of an inquest was held at Limerick to inquire into the circumstances of the death of Miss Elizabeth Scales, aged 19.

A police constable, giving evidence, said that on the evening of December 28th he had been to church with deceased. After coming out of church he had stood for a few minutes talking to her when four men in two couples passed by, saying: "Good night, sir." They had gone about 50 yards when he saw them returning towards him, a couple on either side of the road. Then the men on the further side came opposite him, they crossed over and ordered him to put his hands up. He attempted to draw his revolver, but the man closed into him and wrenched the revolver from him. During the struggle Miss Scales ran between them and she cried out:—"Don't shoot him." The shot was fired, deceased said "Oh," and groaned. He ran to barracks and returned with an escort. The body was found lying in the doorway, and was taken to Barrington Hospital.

The Court, after expressing sympathy with Mr Scales, in which the police joined, found that death was due to shock and hemorrhage, caused by a gunshot wound in the right breast. That the wound was caused by a person or persons unknown who were guilty of wilful murder.

LATEST NEWS

TO-DAY'S TELEGRAMS

U.S.A. AND IRELAND

Interesting Incident in Senate.

Washington
In the House of Representatives to amend the Diplomatic Appropriation providing a salary of 10,000 dollars to Ireland was defeated on a point there had been no recognition of United States Government.

DUKE OF CONNAUGHT IN CALCUTTA.

Calcutta
The Duke of Connaught arrived and streets were decorated, and lined with but owing to the energetic boy organized by the Non-Co-operators complete Bartial is being observed in part of the city.

INTER-ALLIED CONFERENCE

Paris
The plenary sitting of the Inter-Allied Conference opened this morning. M. Berthelot for War; Marshal Foch, and Field-Marshal Henry Wilson were present.

SHOT IN DUBLIN

Our Dublin correspondent wires:—The centre of the Metropolis was the scene of a fatal shooting affair, a head night porter of the establishment done to death in the Wicklow shortly before 10 o'clock. The occurrence to have taken place in the abode of witnesses, with the exception of the deed and the unfortunate victim. Inquiries, however, elicited that was about 50 years of age, and an employee was in the hall of the hotel, between the coffee rooms, which open on either side several men entered the premises. Shots, variously estimated at from five to ten, were heard by members of the staff of the hotel, some of whom ran to the scene they found Doran lying on his back.

AEROPLANE WRECK

The Air Ministry announces that the purpose of "R34" was wrecked last night.

MILITARY SURPRISE AMBUSH

One Killed—Ten Captured
Military yesterday surprised an ambush at Coashford, Co. Cork, killing one

THE UNEMPLOYMENT QUESTION.

The grave question of unemployment presents itself insistently on the notice of the public, and naturally so. Remedial measures are most urgently required, for so far from there being a decrease in the number of people who cannot find work the tendency is the other way about. This is unfortunately evidenced by statistics recently published, from which it would appear that on the register of the Labour Exchanges throughout the United Kingdom there were 748,000 unemployed at the end of December last. On January the 7th the figure stood at 855,000, while on the 14th it had risen to 927,000. This is a deplorable state of affairs, most acute in Great Britain, and severely felt as well in various big centres in this country, notably in Dublin, where the Corporation had the subject under discussion this week. A deputation from the workless attended, and in the result it was decided to appoint a Committee to investigate the problem, and to take steps to see that a portion of the large sum at the disposal of the Unemployment Committee in London should be ear-marked for pressing needs in this country. This practical and timely action will, it is hoped, have the desired result. Unemployment, as said, is very grave; it would seem, indeed, that not since the year 1900 has it been so bad. It is due to depression of trade, and to other causes as well, but while these islands are suffering severely in consequence, the fact cannot be lost sight of that a wave of depression is passing over the world, and is not confined to any particular country. Comparisons, of course, afford us meagre comfort, and what must appeal to all concerned, the Government, the employer, and the employee, is the necessity for devising remedial measures that will speedily alleviate what it is devoutly hoped is but a passing phase of industrial depression. The Cabinet has had for some time past the problem under consideration, and with a view to its solution has consulted the representatives of Capital and Labour. The Labour Party do not see