

# Co. Shooting Case

## Many Witnesses Examined

### Accused Further Remanded

At Bench Court, before Mr H. L. Connor, District Justice, the taking of depositions in the case in which Patrick Coll, Michael O'Connell, Brown stands charged with the murder of James Maher by shooting him on the roadside near Droichead, was continued.

Mr J. J. Power, State Solicitor, continued the examination of witnesses; Mr Roger Fox, who appeared for accused, and Mr E. Fox, who, for the sake of his of the dead one.

Accused, who sat between two plain clothes Garda, kept his head buried in his hands throughout the hearing.

Seven other witnesses were examined on Friday.

Dr. Daniel Scaplen, forensic expert, gave detailed evidence as to the exhibits, a double-barrel shot gun, and some cartridges forwarded to him by Inspector Breen. He also submitted photographs.

David Fitzgerald, Paddy's partner in crime, Kinsale, deposed that on July 2nd Coll bought a padlock from him, and stated he knew if a similar one had been sold anywhere, and witness said yes.

Kitty Hender, a domestic servant in the accused's employment, deposed to seeing a gun similar to the one produced in accused's possession on 20th June, but noticed it gone on the 21st July.

Nannie Lynch, a laundrywoman, employed by accused, deposed to Coll's movements with his motor car on the day of the tragedy. Accused, witness stated, seemed under the impression that a horse of his had been taken away. While employed by accused he thought dressed gun on wall together.

Timothy Tierney, publican's son, Droichead, gave important evidence. On the 20th June he heard accused say to James Maher outside James O'Connell's cottage:— "There are some cattle being returned from my land. The best head that's returned I'll give you." Coll had the gun with him at the time, and Maher replied "I'm not interfering with you or your cattle."

Witness was also in the vicinity on the day of the shooting. He saw the lorry pass with Michael Russell driving and James Maher also in it, carrying a load of three barrels Droichead cow cottage. He saw the accused's motor car driven by Mr Coll following. Accused was in the back seat.

When the lorry drew up outside James O'Connell's house he saw Mr Coll come out of his own car and run towards the lorry. His two hands were aloft, and ran in house to tell his father. Laura saw Patrick Coll passing back driving the motor car. The father went in the direction of where the shots were fired, and in a few minutes came back, and witness joined in Bench for Dr O'Connell and the Garda.

Michael Ryan, a grocer in prisoner's employment since 27th June last, gave evidence as to carrying a chamber scale to the 2nd lot. That evening he looked for stable scale the same and three other boxes were alright. Next morning witness noticed a weighing on the contractor's land, which might happen from a show. Mr Coll and his two boys for the parcel, which was in order that weighing, and there was no sign of anyone having broken in. Witness seemed see the horse's leg, he recalled that someone must have got in during the night. Witness himself thought that was impossible. Accused stated possibly must have made an entrance into the horse's paddock, and opened gate a lot.

Mrs Mary J. Coll, Central Hotel, Droichead, who she said she owned, detailed a visit to her house by accused and his wife on the afternoon of the 21st inst. Patrick Coll had a double-barrelled shot gun in his hand. He asked her for horses, and when the latter came to accused and Michael went into the hall, while she heard Pat Coll say "I shot Maher." Her husband said "I would not, Paddy." He asked her husband to have a drink, but he refused. She did not see accused take any shooting dogs but it would. He then went about four paces of whistling quickly, remarking to her husband "You're feeling like the dog whistle." The Garda then arrived and took accused away.

The further hearing was adjourned until Monday at Bench.