

MAJOR CLASH NOW FEARED

Chinese Driven Back After Fierce Battle

Japanese Present Ultimatum

The conflict between the Chinese and Japanese in North China flared up alarmingly again yesterday, bringing the danger of a major clash between the two Far Eastern Powers appreciably nearer.

The fiercest fight yet recorded in the present complications began on Sunday night at Langfang, midway between Peiping and Tientsin, and continued till noon yesterday.

A bombardment by seventeen Japanese aeroplanes finally forced the Chinese troops, who had already stood up to one aerial attack and heavy fire from field guns, to flee, leaving the Japanese to occupy Langfang.

THE ULTIMATUM.

General Katuski, the Japanese Commander-in-Chief, has since presented an ultimatum, demanding the withdrawal of the whole of the Chinese 37th Division, the soldiers involved in the original clash, by noon on Wednesday, under threat of military measures.

A curious telegram from Nanking says that General Sung Cheh-yuan, the Chairman of the Hopei-Chahar Political Council, has informed the Central Government that he had ordered the 29th Army, to which the 37th Division belongs, not to retire.

It remains to be seen whether this means definitely that the Central Government has refused to confirm the agreement General Sung had reached with the Japanese, making big concessions to their demands.

Another clash occurred last night just outside one of the gates of Peiping, on the Wangping road, lasting half an hour.

THE BUILDING DEADLOCK

An Intensified Fight

There is little hope for an early settlement of the Dublin building trade dispute which has been in progress for 15 weeks.

The builders' providers will close down Friday next for the annual holidays, which will continue for a fortnight, and in some cases it is considered likely that the providers will not re-open until the stoppage ends.

The general impression is that there will be no settlement before the middle of August.

In the meantime the rank and file workers in the building trade express the view that the struggle should be intensified. They propose to hold a meeting to-night in support of this policy.

The Great Northern Railway Company is at present considering further representations made by the Federation of Irish Rail and Road Workers regarding the wages of bus workers and road freight transport workers.

A further conference of the parties will take place on Thursday next.

NIGHT WORK IN BAKERIES

Order Made By Minister

The following statement was issued yesterday by the Department of Industry and Commerce:—

The Minister for Industry and Com-

SAD TRAGEDY

Little Boy Disappears

Inquest Verdict

A sad drowning tragedy occurred at Kilkee on Sunday afternoon, in which a little boy named Robert Mulrooney (11), Prospect, Limerick, lost his life.

It appears that the boy accompanied his parents to Kilkee, where they were seeking accommodation for their holidays. He went bathing near the breakwater at the East End, and did not return. After some time his absence was noticed, and his clothes were found where he had placed them.

Dragging and diving operations were immediately carried out in the vicinity, but to no avail.

The sad tragedy cast a gloom over Kilkee on Sunday, and the greatest sympathy is felt for the bereaved parents.

Mr. Mulrooney is employed as a chemist in Dr. O'Sullivan's premises, William Street.

The circumstances in which the boy lost his life are clouded, but it appears that after bathing with his father on the strand he went alone to the rocks at the east end of the town, having with him his bathing costume. Some two hours later his mother missed him, and after searching the rocks his clothes were found in the bathing shelter near the breakwater.

The Gardai were at once notified and a search was made in a canoe manned by the local fishermen, but no trace could be found of him. Tommy Kelly, the well-known Dublin boxer, who was on the scene, took part in diving operations, without success. Dragging operations were carried out all through the evening and until 2.30 a.m. by the Gardai, under Sergeant P. A. Carroll, and the local fishermen, at which hour they were suspended until later in the morning. The bay was swept with nets by the fishermen, but no trace could be found of the body. Operations were again resumed at 11 a.m., and, after searching for an hour, the body was found at low tide near the breakwater.

Nobody saw the boy go bathing, but as he was a non-swimmer it appears that he must have slipped into deep water while wading. He only arrived in Kilkee on Sunday morning in a motor car to spend the day at the seaside with his mother, brother aged 8 years, and father, Mr. Patrick Mulrooney, who is a chemist in William Street, Limerick.

The Gardai and the local fishermen worked very hard in the search for the boy, and although their clothes were wet from wading in the water they did not give up the search until 2.30 a.m., and again resumed operations at 11 a.m.

Amongst the large number of people who assisted in dragging operations were Mr. James Foran, Kilkee, a well-known footballer, who captained the Clare senior football team in the All-Ireland final in 1917, and Mr. T. J. Ryan, the well-known Republican. A large number of people watched the Gardai and fishermen carrying out dragging operations throughout the night. Much regret is felt in the town for the tragedy that has occurred.

At an inquest held at the Courthouse, Kilkee, by the Coroner, Dr. Hillary, Mil-town Malbay, assisted by Dr. C. C. Hickey, Kilkee, and Dr. W. J. Shannon, Carrigaholt, a verdict of death due to drowning was returned.

The funeral arrived in Limerick from Kilkee last night, and was met at the borough boundary, Ennis Road, by a huge concourse of sympathisers, who followed the remains to St. Michael's Church, from where the funeral took place to-day.

COUNTY CYCLIST

Found Dead on Roadside

Accident Mystery

While motoring to his home at Emly, from Limerick, in the early hours of Sunday morning, James Lonergan found a man in an unconscious condition on the roadside near Ballyneety, six miles from Limerick. Mr. Lonergan first observed a bicycle on the roadway, and afterwards saw the man a little distance away.

Mr. Lonergan placed the man in his car and rushed with him to the County Infirmary, where life was pronounced extinct.

Later the body was identified as that of John Long, Scart, Ballyneety. He was a labourer, aged about 30, and unmarried.

There appeared to be only minor injuries on the body.

THE INQUEST.

Mr. J. S. McNeice, solicitor, Deputy Coroner, with a jury, held an inquest in the County Infirmary yesterday morning touching the death of the deceased.

Supt. Hollpand, Pallas, conducted the enquiry.

The Coroner said that Dr. J. Byrne, County Infirmary, had carried out a post-mortem examination, but he was not prepared to state the actual cause of death, and in that connection wished to have the opinion of a second doctor. There were certain circumstances touching the death of the deceased that might or might not result in criminal proceedings, and might depend on the medical evidence. Therefore, the inquest would have to be adjourned until the opinion of a second doctor was procured.

Martin Long, Scart, Ballyneety, brother of the deceased, said his brother was about 38 years of age. He was an attendant in Limerick Mental Hospital, and was unmarried. He last saw his brother alive on Saturday morning, when he was in his usual good health. He never complained of any illness. He had seen the body, which he identified as that of his brother, John Long.

No further evidence was taken, and the Coroner adjourned to an indefinite date.

BOOKMAKER'S LICENCE

Before Mr. H. L. Connor, D.J., at Kilmallock Court.

Michael Flynn, Knocklong, brought an appeal from the decision of Supt. T. Keyes, Bruff, refusing a bookmaker's licence to appellant at Knocklong, County Limerick.

Mr. P. McCarthy, solicitor, Kilfinane, appeared for the appellant.

Mr. McCarthy stated that his client made application for a licence under the Betting Act on the grounds of personal fitness and suitability of premises, and was refused on the second point, and that there were already an excessive number of offices of the kind in the place where situated. He was a native of Knocklong, where there was a betting office since 1924. The locality was always a great racehorse breeding centre and there was naturally an interest in betting. The nearest betting office was about three miles away.

In reply to Supt. Keyes, appellant said that in addition to the betting office at Hospital there were two in Kilmallock and Kilfinane, eight miles away; one in Bruff, nine miles from Knocklong; Tipperary, twelve miles, and Mitchelstown fourteen miles away. The premises for which the licence was sought were not those held by Mr. Ryan, who previously held an office in Knocklong.

SALE OF BUTTER

Summons Again Creamer

High Court Case

In the High Court, Dublin, President, Mr. Justice MacCarthy, Justice Hanna, and Mr. Justice MacCarthy, an application was made by the Minister for Agriculture.

Justice MacCarthy, notwithstanding a conditional order of mandamus to Joseph M. Flood, B.L., Justice MacCarthy for the Limerick and vicinity to determine a summons on behalf of the Minister against the Co-operative Creamery, Limerick, for creamery butter at a price statutory minimum to a Dublin.

Mr. M. J. Connolly, K.C., (instructed by Mr. Dixon (Solicitor), appeared for the Minister. Mr. J. A. Costello, K.C., (instructed by Mr. Mangan (instructed by Mr. Mangan for the Oola Co-operative Creamery.)

Mr. Connolly said that he summoned for selling the creamery butter to Mr. J. O'Donovan, but that the price was less than fixed by the Creamery (Minimum Prices) No. 2 Order, contrary to Section 39 (1) of the Price Stabilisation Act. A summons first came before Justice at Pallaskey, where the jurisdiction of the District Court was claimed, and no evidence was gone.

The first point was that the body could not be said to be within the jurisdiction for the purpose of the District Court (b) of the District Court. The second point raised was that the summons should be dismissed in which the offence was committed.

The District Justice having heard the arguments, adjourned the case to the Limerick District Court, where an order of no jurisdiction was made.

Counsel read an affidavit of the State Solicitor for Limerick, who stated that on behalf of the Creamery Company it was argued that the butter was sent to the purchaser in response to an order from the purchaser, and that the purchaser was not communicating with the order. They had no written order, and that the appropriate District Court jurisdiction was Dublin. The summons brought was Dublin. They were a company with registered office within the District Court jurisdiction. The affidavit stated that the District Justice marked the jurisdiction. Counsel said that the affidavit of Mr. Henry Nash of the Creamery Company had been selling butter to O'Donovan for a considerable period, and that the purchaser posted a letter ordering the butter, the letter was mailed to him and carried by the Limerick and Tipperary Railways Company. The closed cheques in payment were sent in letters containing orders. No acknowledgment of orders was sent, and delivery of the goods at the premises.

Mr. Justice Byrne, in his judgment of the Court, said that he agreed with the contention that for the purpose of determining the jurisdiction in a case like the Oola Co-operative Creamery case, the jurisdiction should be determined within the meaning of the Act. The Court was of the opinion that the jurisdiction was in the present case the District Court.