

# Sad Drowning

## Kilkee Fatality

### How Limerick Boy Met His Death

Under somewhat mysterious circumstances Robert Mulrooney, aged 11 years, of Prospect, Limerick, lost his life in a sad drowning tragedy at Kilkee on Sunday afternoon.

The circumstances in which he 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 Gardaí 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.

Dragging operations were carried out all through the evening, but without success, and until 2.30 a.m. on Monday morning, by the Gardaí under Sergeant Carroll and the 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 going 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 P. Mulrooney, who is a chemist in Limerick.

The Gardaí and the local fishermen worked very hard in the search for the body, and although their clothes were wet from wading in the water they did not give up the search until 2.30 a.m. A large number of people watched the Gardaí and fishermen carrying out dragging operations throughout the night. Much regret is felt in the town for the tragedy.

At an inquest held at the Courthouse by the coroner, Dr. Hillary, assisted by Dr. C. Hickey, and Dr. W. J. Shannon, a verdict of death due to drowning was returned.

The funeral left Kilkee for Limerick on Monday.