

Child's Death

Sad Drowning Fatality

Inquest Findings

The sad death of a child by drowning was revealed at an inquest held at Barrington's Hospital on Wednesday touching the death of a child named Michael Creamer, 3 years, of 37 St Ita's street, Island Field, whose body was recovered from a trench at the Island Field the previous evening. Mr J S McNiece, solr, Acting Coroner, conducted the inquiry, and Supt. Meehan represented the Garda authorities.

Evidence of identification was given by Patrick Creamer, the child's father. He stated he went to a trench in the Island Field on Tuesday evening and found his child there. The trench was full of water, and there was no protection around it.

Dr Stephen McDonagh, Resident Medical Officer, Barrington's Hospital, stated when the child was admitted he appeared to be dead. Death was due to asphyxia and cardiac failure, following immersion in water.

John Moloney, uncle of deceased, said he brought the child to his home at 5 p.m. on Tuesday afternoon, and left him playing outside with other children. At about 6 p.m. he got a message, as a result of which he went to the trench where he saw the child who appeared to be dead. Witness conveyed the child to the hospital immediately.

John Flynn, 92 Oliver Plunket street, stated when returning home his attention was attracted to the trench by some children. He went to the spot and saw the child floating on the top of the water. He jumped down from the top of the bank and took the child out. Artificial respiration was then tried but was not effective.

Superintendent—What would be the depth of the water?

Witness—About eight feet.

Coroner—That would be in the deepest portion?

Witness—Yes, in the centre. It is not so deep at the sides.

Continuing, witness said there were four or five young children in the vicinity of the trench.

The Coroner said the occurrence was purely accidental. The child apparently fell into the water and the other young children who were with the deceased could be of no assistance in getting him out.

The jury returned a verdict that death was due to asphyxia and cardiac failure following immersion in water. They added a rider recommending that a fence be placed around the trench to guard against a repetition of the occurrence.