

Limerick Fatality

Evidence Of State Pathologist

Inquest Verdict

Mr J S McNeice, solr, deputy coroner, held an inquest at Barrington's Hospital on Saturday touching the circumstances of the death of John Madden, 43 Road E, Janesboro', Limerick, who died in the hospital on Friday morning.

Supt J Dennehy conducted the inquiry and Mr Nial Gaffney, solr, appeared for the next-of-kin; Mr J J Power, solr, represented the Attorney General.

Patrick Madden, son of the deceased, said he last saw him alive and in good health at 7.30 p.m. on October 17. Deceased was then commencing to paint the door of the kitchen and was by himself in the house. When returning home at 12.15 he found his father lying on the ground near the kitchen door. There was a pool of blood near his head. Witness failed to awaken his father and he then ran to a neighbour's house. A doctor was sent for and deceased was subsequently removed to Barrington's Hospital where he died towards morning. Deceased was a widower and lived with witness. They returned from America in 1924, and while there deceased had erysipelas. He frequently complained of headaches.

Dr J McGrath, State Pathologist, stated that acting on the instructions of the coroner he carried out a post mortem examination of the body, assisted by Dr J Tynan, House Surgeon, Barrington's Hospital. He found a deep bruise on the right side of the face and another over the right eyebrow. The upper and lower eyelid was infiltrated with blood. There was evidence of recent haemorrhage and the heart was enlarged. Death in witness's opinion was due to coma, caused by haemorrhage of the brain. The bruises might readily have been caused by a fall following haemorrhage.

Dr J Tynan gave corroborative evidence.

The coroner said that in view of the evidence he would bring in a verdict that death was due to coma, following haemorrhage in to the brain. In the present case certain inquiries had to be made due to certain circumstances, and things had turned out very fortunately for everybody. The Guards had to take the steps they took in the best interests of everybody, and were as glad as he himself was that the inquiry had ended as it did. He was very sorry for the relatives, particularly for the young son.

Mr J Power, State Solicitor, joined in the expression of sympathy.

Mr P Doyle, brother-in-law, expressed appreciation of the coroner's remarks and said the family had done everything possible to help the authorities, and realised that certain investigations were necessary.