

To Destroy Fowl

ALLEGATIONS IN COURT

CASE

At Hospital Court, before Mr. H. Conner, B.L., D.J., Katie Burke and Kathleen Coogan, who had been charged at a previous court with poisoning 9 hens and 5 chickens, the property of Mrs. Mary Corrigan, Hospital, were again brought forward. The case was dismissed against Miss Coogan at the previous hearing and fresh proceedings were now taken against her.

SAW THEM "JUST DYING."

Mrs. Mary Corrigan stated that she knew both defendants. On 15th July she found nine hens and 5 chickens falling down just dying. The hens were worth 10/- each and the chickens 4/- each. On the previous evening she saw both defendants going out to where her fowl were. She watched them and they held a consultation for about 15 minutes. They had no business to be there. On the 26th August, when the Sergeant was present, one of the defendants said to the other: "You did it," and she replied, "You put me up to it, you are continually calling me out in the morning." Since last January she had neither hand, act or part with either of the defendants. She suspected that it was rat poison that was used to poison her fowl.

To Mr. Bennett—She only saw Miss Coogan going out to the field and anything that Mrs. Bourke said Miss Coogan denied.

To the Justice—Miss Coogan said that only for her preventing her Mrs. Bourke would have poisoned the water.

SERGEANT'S EVIDENCE.

Sergeant Hurley, Hospital, stated that he called both of the defendants out and he told Miss Coogan that Mrs. Bourke had made a statement that it was she persuaded her to poison the fowl and called her out on the morning of the 15th July and said that they could poison the fowl now as they were all in bed and that she persuaded her to go over to the technical school field and put it there. Miss Coogan admitted that she did accompany Mrs. Bourke to the school field and that Mrs. Bourke said she had the poison but did not throw it to the hens. Mrs. Bourke said that Miss Coogan came in to the house to carry over poison to the technical school, that the hens were there. Miss Coogan denied that statement.

To Mr. Bennett—He told Miss Coogan of all the allegations made against her by Mrs. Bourke and she denied the truth of Mrs. Bourke's statement except that she was with her and saw her. She admitted being aware of it but that she had no part in it.

SOLICITOR'S SUBMISSION.

Mr. Bennett submitted that the only evidence was the statement of Mrs. Bourke made or taken in the presence of Miss Coogan and on which she was subsequently examined by the sergeant. It was no evidence against the accused because by her manner and conduct it was wrong. He submitted with great respect that it was no evidence unless the conspirator or co-conspirator proved the statement. His worship then had only the evidence of a accomplice uncorroborated.

CHRISTMAS DAY SWIM

LIMERICK HAD ITS FIRST CONTEST

On Christmas morning this year seven competitors faced the starter for the first Christmas Day swim to take place in Limerick. The water registered 43° F.

Those who braved the elements were Paddy Dwyer, John Daly, Donogh O'Malley, Paddy Brinn, Tim Moran, Henry Daly and Jack Butler. For the first quarter all the competitors were in the water.

Troubles Of Rent Collector

TENANT BOUND TO THE PEACE

BEFORE MR. H. L. CONNER, B.L., D.J., AT BRUFF COURT.

John O'Shaughnessy, rent collector to the Limerick Co. Board of Health, summoned James Ryan for alleged abusive language, and there was an application to bind to the peace.

Mr. T. E. F. Bennett, solr., appeared for plaintiff, and Mr. T. M. Mitchell, solr., for defendant.

Plaintiff stated that he lived at Shannon Bridge, Ballyneety. He knew the defendant, from whom he had to collect rent. He had to collect from 500 tenants. Last September he had occasion to visit the defendant's house and had gone about three-quarters of a mile when defendant overtook him on a bike and passed witness out and when he had got in front he produced a paper and wanted to get an official receipt from witness. He called him a spy. He was one of the worst tenants he had in his area. He wanted to have him bound to the peace.

By Mr. Mitchell—He did suggest that the defendant was the worst tenant in his area, as he had to bring him into court. He had called to the defendant's house with a receipt and the door was locked. He denied shouting when passing Ryan's door and he did not say: "If you don't pay the rent I will make you do it." That would not be business. His practice was to go to the house and if he did not get his rent to serve notice to quit.

DEFENDANT EXAMINED.

Defendant stated that he was in the cottage for ten or eleven years. He paid last in October and his wife got an acknowledgment, which the complainant called a receipt, and he (defendant) wanted to find out if he owed 5/-. It was the complainant's practice to shout at people from the road, and he had done it several times. He asked him to explain how there could be 5/- due, and he did not say yes or no. He then said it was due, but that was all. He did not threaten him much.

To Mr. Bennett—He made a report to the Secretary of the Co. Council, Mr. O'Donnell, to whom he offered the rent and he would not take it. He never reported the complainant and there was no use in reporting. He never said a word about apes.

The defendant was bound to the peace for twelve months in his own recognisance of £5 and ordered to pay 17/- costs.

The Justice said there seemed to be some question as to the accuracy of Mr. O'Shaughnessy's accounts, and it should be made clear to the defendant why he owed 5/8.

On the application of Mr. J. J. Power, solicitor, Patrick Ryan, junior, was granted a transfer of the licence held by his father, Patrick Ryan, senior, Bruff.

MAINTENANCE ORDER.

Hanora O'Shea sought a maintenance order against her husband, Christopher O'Shea, from whom she is separated.

Mr. J. J. Power, solicitor, appeared for the applicant, and the defendant was not professionally represented.

Applicant stated that proceedings were before the Court at Kilmallock dealing with the conduct of the defendant, by reason of which she had to leave him. He had not since given anything towards the support of herself and her three children.

Defendant stated that he could not get work since September and he had asked the road ganger for employment and he had told him that they would be finished on the following Saturday.

To Mr. Power—On the 13th September he finished working for a farmer at 15/- a week. He was working now, and then for the Co. Council for the past three years.

Mr. Power—I am instructed that you deliberately avoided getting any employment so as to defeat this application?—I am drawing 6/- single man's allowance and I sent a letter to the Employment Exchange that they could give the balance to my wife, and the manager told me that she need only make application and that it would be 13/- then.

The Justice made an order for 7/- a week.

BIG PATRONAGE

CHRISTMAS AMUSEMENTS

The various special amusements and sports fixtures held in Limerick during the Christmas holidays were very well patronised. The attendance at Greenpark race meeting on St. Stephen's Day

Young Man Shot Dead

IN HIS FATHER'S HOUSE

HORRIBLE TRAGEDY NEAR ABBEYFEALE

On Christmas Eve, at about 7.45 p.m., old time (writes our Abbeyfeale correspondent), a young man named James D. Collins, aged about 20, was engaged reading a newspaper inside the kitchen window in his father's house at Abbeyfeale East, when he was shot dead through the window. The fatal shot appears to have been fired close to the window. Shortly afterwards Rev. Father Meade, C.C., was at the scene of the tragedy some two miles from the town, on the Eastern side of Abbeyfeale Hill. Superintendent Mulcahy and a large number of Guards have been since investigating the matter.

Dr. McGrath, the State Pathologist spent several hours at an autopsy on the deceased, with Dr. Ed. Harnett, and it was nearly 7 p.m. on Christmas Day before the inquest was held by Coroner Cussen, with Mr. John W. Flynn as foreman of the jury. The tragic occurrence came as a shock to the people of the district and was the subject of strong condemnation by the clergy.

THE INQUEST.

Denis W. Collins, replying to Supt. T. Mulcahy, stated at the inquest that he was a farmer residing at Abbeyfeale East, and father of the deceased boy, James D. Collins. He identified the body as that of his son. "I last saw him alive at about 7.45 p.m. (old time) on the night of Wednesday, 24th inst., he went on, I was sitting on a chair next to him in the kitchen, he was reading a paper when a shot came in through the window and killed him. He was about 20 years of age and worked at home with me. On the day of his death he was in Abbeyfeale for the day and returned home about 7 p.m. (old time). He was then in his usual good health and spirits."

Supt. Mulcahy—With your permission, Mr. Coroner, I would like to ask him one question.

Coroner Cussen—Very well.

Supt. Mulcahy—Do you know of any reason for such an act against your son, or any member of your family?

Witness—No, no.

WOUNDS DESCRIBED.

Dr. John McGrath, State Pathologist, said that on the 25th December he performed a post mortem, and was assisted by Dr. Edward Harnett, on the body of the deceased. It was that of a sparely built young man of about 20. He was lying on the floor of the kitchen, fully-dressed. He found the front of the clothes and near the head soaked in blood. There were many pellet marks behind and in the neighbourhood of the right ear and on a level with the ear. Behind the ear he found crushed wads and pellets of shot. The brain was damaged. A main blood vessel in the neck was severed. There were pellet marks in the thumb and index finger of the right hand. Death was due to shock and haemorrhage.

DASTARDLY ACT.

The Coroner said the subject of their investigation that evening was the first crime of its kind in that locality. That dastardly act had cruelly disturbed the happy peace of Christmas time. He knew they would join with him in expressing their deep sympathy with the father and family of that young man who met such an unexpected and tragic end.

Supt. Mulcahy said he desired to be associated with that vote of sympathy with Mr. Collins and his family, so callously bereaved at that peaceful season. So far as the State was concerned nothing would be left undone to bring the culprit to justice. He would respectfully ask the Coroner to adjourn the inquest sine die.

The inquest was accordingly adjourned.

THE FUNERAL.

There was a very large attendance of the general public on Friday at the funeral of deceased. Many expressions of sympathy were conveyed to the grief-stricken parents, brothers and sisters of the deceased, as well as intense feelings of horror entertained generally at an act so cruel as it is so far unaccountable. Deceased was connected with large number of relatives throughout the district. The prayers at the graveside were read by the Rev. J. O'Donnell, C.C., Parteen (cousin), Rev. J. Houlihan, C.C., and Rev. W. J. Meade, C.C.

On St. Stephen's Day, Chief Supt. Derreen, Supt. Mulcahy and Supt. McKennan, as well as a large number of Guards were engaged actively in the Abbeyfeale East area and throughout the district.

It was learned to-day that no arrest has yet been made.

HUNT CONTINUES

Bullock Behind a Counter

EXIT THROUGH PLATE GLASS WINDOW

THE GYRATIONS OF A BULLOCK

after entering a shop were described at Roscrea District Court, before Mr. W. J. Meagher, B.L., D.J., during the hearing of an action for damage to property.

William Fitzpatrick, Limerick, Street Roscrea, sued Michael Loughnane, Main Street, do., for £7 2s. 9d. for damage to a plate glass window, caused, as alleged, by the negligence of the defendant's servants in the driving of cattle on the 23rd October last.

Mr. A. C. Houlihan, solicitor, for the plaintiff, and Mr. P. F. O'Connor, LL.B., solr., for defendant.

Catherine Fitzpatrick stated that while in her kitchen on the day in question she saw a bullock suddenly rush into the shop. The bullock went behind the counter and went out through the plate glass window to the street again. The defendant was the owner of the animal.

To Mr. O'Connor, she said the animal was in the shop when she first saw it and she was afraid it might burst into the kitchen where she was.

STATIONARY LORRY.

J. Thompson stated that on the 23rd October the defendant asked him to take three cattle down to Chapel Lane. The witness had to drive them down Limerick Street. Another man was in front of the cattle going down Limerick Street whose job it was to turn the cattle into the lane and stop them going down the street. Between them they had to "hush hush" the cattle into a narrow archway. The plaintiff's shop was about five yards from the archway. When they were coming down Limerick Street there was a stationary lorry outside Tierney's gate, away about ten yards from Fitzpatrick's. There were planks hanging out of the archway so that the passage on the footpath was blocked. By the time witness had got round to the front of the lorry two of the cattle had already gone into plaintiff's shop.

To Mr. O'Connor, the witness said that the other man, O'Meara, had gone in front to turn the cattle into the archway. Witness saw a motor car coming up Limerick Street. The cattle got between the car and the lorry and ran on ahead.

To the Justice, the witness said that the lorry extended across Treanor's corner. The polly bullock got behind the counter. The other two cattle followed him into the shop, but witness succeeded in getting them out. At the time the front one had got behind the counter. Witness and O'Meara did their best to prevent the animal coming through the window. Witness went outside and tried to keep the animal back.

BETWEEN MOTOR AND LORRY.

Michael O'Meara, in reply to Mr. O'Connor, said he went in front of the cattle at the top of Burgoon. He walked on the footpath on the left. A car was coming up and witness passed when the cattle were between the car and the lorry. When he looked back the polly had gone into the shop and the other cattle were following him. Witness ran back and got them out towards the lane.

To Mr. Houlihan, the witness said there was nobody at Fitzpatrick's to prevent the cattle going in.

Mr. Houlihan—If you had been where you were and Thompson had been where he should have been the cattle could not have broken into the shop.

The Justice—I took it that the cattle actually broke in before they reached the place where it was intended to turn them in. It is clear that there was no negligence on O'Meara's part.

To other questions, O'Meara said that they were with the cattle till they got to the corner, and then the motor car came up and the cattle got between the car and the lorry. Witness was waiting for the cattle at Chapel Lane.

Mr. Houlihan—When you were passing the cattle you were "hushing" them?—I just ran down straight to the lane.

The Justice—What do you say caused the cattle to go into the shop?—I don't know; they might have mistaken it for the turf.

Recalled by the Justice, Thompson said O'Meara passed down immediately after the motor car. Witness followed in the tracks of the cattle and did nothing to turn the animals towards the shop. The lorry prevented him from keeping on the path immediately after the cattle. He had to go round in front of the lorry. When the motor car passed the cattle burst out real quickly and one got into the shop.

To Mr. O'Connor, the witness said the cattle were not in a bunch. The first one to enter the shop was in front of the other two.

Thirst After Drawing Turf

EVIDENCE IN LICENSING CASE

BEFORE MR. H. L. CONNER, B.L., D.J., AT BRUFF COURT.

The Attorney-General at the prosecution of Supt. Keegan, Bruff, charged Mary O'Dwyer, Meanus, with a breach of the licensing laws on the 12th October.

Mr. T. M. Mitchell, solicitor, defended.

Guard Skeahan stated that at 9.45 p.m. he observed a light in the bar of the defendant's premises and after knocking he was admitted by the licensee's husband, who said that there were a few men in the bar. He found five men there and the explanation for their presence given by the defendant was that "they came in for a drink." They were all drinking pints.

Mr. Mitchell admitted the facts. These men were drawing turf on that day and were thirsty and tired and the publican did not like to refuse them for a drink. The defendant was not long in business and it was her first time coming before the Court.

A fine of 10/- was imposed on the publican and the men found on the premises were each fined 2/6.

CASES AT HOSPITAL.

At Hospital Court, before Mr. H. L. Conner, B.L., D.J.,

The Attorney-General, at the prosecution of Supt. Keegan, Bruff, charged Violet Slattery, Hospital, with a breach of the Licensing laws on Sunday November 30th.

Mr. T. E. F. Bennett, solr., defended.

Sergeant Hurley, Hospital, stated that at 11.45 p.m. on the said date he was on duty at Hospital and knocked at the hall-door of the defendant's licensed premises, being admitted immediately. In the hall were five men having drinks. The hall was leading to the door which opened into the shop. He asked Miss Slattery to account for the presence of the men and she made no explanation. One of the men said that they were invited in by Miss Mabel Slattery, who said that they were knocking at the door and she told them to come in.

EXCEPTIONALLY WELL CONDUCTED.

To Mr. Bennett—He was for a number of years stationed in Hospital and the house had never before come under his notice. It was an exceptionally well conducted house.

Mr. Bennett said that there had never before been a prosecution against the defendant and the sergeant had given the house a very good character.

A fine of 5/- was imposed on the publican and the men found on the premises were fined 3/- each.

There was a similar charge against William McGrath, Hospital, and Sergeant Hurley stated that at 11.5 p.m. he was admitted immediately he had knocked by Mr. McGrath, who said there were some men in the bar. Witness found five men there with drinks and there was no explanation given for their presence.

THE DAY OF LIMERICK PARADE.

For the defence, Mr. Bennett said that there was a big parade in Limerick that day and the men were coming back.

Sergeant Hurley said that only one of the men gave a correct name.

The summons against that defendant was dismissed.

Mr. Bennett suggested that Mr. McGrath was not to blame, and the Justice said that as far as he was concerned all the publicans who were obeying the law were put at a disadvantage if those who were not obeying it got off completely, so he would impose a fine of 10/-.

WASTE PAPER

BIGGER EFFORT NEEDED

That a bigger effort in waste paper collection is needed was urged by Mr. D. McCullough, Director, at the annual meeting on Saturday of the Clondalkin Paper Mills, Ltd. He said that they received at the mills every week 200 tons of waste paper. That still left untouched the large quantities of waste paper in the ordinary households. He believed the solution of the problem lay in the organised collection from householders. Every scrap of waste paper, including even cigarette cards and envelopes, should be collected, as it would be all needed before the end of next year, as the supplies from offices which they had been getting were becoming exhausted.

Mr. J. J. Walsh, Chairman of the Company, said that in his opinion the solution to the problem of waste paper collection would be best found in co-operation between the merchants and the local authorities throughout the country.

Mr. J. J. O'Toole, Limerick, was re-elected a director of the Company.

TIMBER INDUSTRY

The Minister for Commerce, Mr. Sean, submitted to the Great Railways the case made a deputation representing Limerick timber merchant with the lack facilities over the rail. The Minister has urged that timber, particularly required for box-making, accorded special consideration with the obligation to give priority traffics. The Company should, have expressed a willingness to comply with request and everything be done to improve position in relation to

BETTER PROSPECT

In connection with difficulties it is possible on behalf of the Railway that there are now over a hundred and seventy available. The delay present occur, and avoidable in the obtaining, reduce supply of trucks to a day. Coal trucks or cannot just now be the timber industry. It in official quarters that may be materially in the present urgent demand for beet and grain traffic met.

IMPORTANT MATT

Our attention has to the fact that besides other articles were laundry from a ho cases of infection had occurred. Need laundry would have goods if they were facts, but those themselves open to is reasonable to assume that what has happened ignorance of the law that is needed to prevent breach is a gentle re

SCHEMES SANCTIO

The Department of ment has sanctioned works to be carried as a relief scheme. widening of the Far and the construction of housing scheme with Road, Thomondgate, estimated cost of £1,533, the State will of £1,278. It will be that the rates will contribute only £255, that operations on start out of hand.

GOOD BUSINESS.

Very good business the city in connection has come to be "Christmas Trade" of our traders do not that their turnover than that for last; be of interest to not on this occasion "sensible" presents, hold goods. Business Eve was very brisk, that the cross-Chann somewhat late. I made it is learned stantial remittances reached the city du

DISAPPOINTED.

The hundreds of in Thomondgate and very disappointed at the Omnibus Company to issue special bus when travelling by work. In other concessions are given by way of reduced felt that an exception have been made in workingman living who avails of the bring him to the spends tenpence per shillings per week isn't it?

GAS ER