

Clare Sensation

Mother and Daughter Charged With Murder

At Kilkee on Wednesday evening, before Mr Patrick Hassett, Peace Commissioner, Mrs Sarah Madigan, aged 41 years, a widow, and her daughter, Nora Madigan, 18 years, of Dough, Kilkee, were charged with the murder of Patrick Madigan, aged 64, on the 23rd September last.

The accused were remanded in custody until the next District Court at Kilkee.

On the 23rd September Patrick Madigan, who was employed as a road ganger on the main Kilkee Doonbeg road by the Clare County Council left home to go to work, and took with him his dinner. Shortly after 2 p.m. some men noticed him sitting by the roadside and looking extremely ill. One man said to him: "You look awful, and you should not have come to work to day," to which he replied: "I was grand until I had my dinner". He was taken to a house nearby where he was put resting on a chair. He was apparently seized with convulsions, and his state became so alarming that the doctor and priest were sent for. He died at 6 p.m.

At an inquest held on 24th September an adjournment was applied for to enable Dr McGrath, State Pathologist to be communicated with. When Dr McGrath came he performed a post mortem and took away some of the internal organs for examination by the State Analyst.

Patrick Madigan, deceased, lived in a new labourer's cottage at Dough, Kilkee, and was the father of 16 children, two of whom are now in England. Following the arrest of the mother and daughter seven of the children, who are aged between 3 and 12 years, were removed to Ennis.

Following the death of Madigan there has been much activity by Gardai and members of the G.I.D. Digging operations were carried out in the lands surrounding the house.