

Loss to Limerick

Death of Mr Jack Quilligan

Passing of Great Limerick Sportsman.

It would be stating it mildly that the citizens received a shock on Monday morning when it became known that Mr Jack Quilligan, Secretary Limerick City Board and Hospital, had passed away unexpectedly during the night at his residence, Corbally.

Deceased, who had reached his 47th year, was out and about on Sunday apparently in his usual good health, and even attended a meeting of Mutual Ma Tins, which was arranging for the distribution of turf to the poor during the coming winter.

The late Mr Quilligan was a public official of the first rank, and as Secretary to the City Board of Health for the past 20 years, he was the recipient of the highest eulogiums for his administrative ability from Departmental Inspectors from time to time.

Perhaps it was as a devotee of the Rugby game that deceased was most popularly known, for since his earliest days he was connected with the game either as a player or administrator. Graduating with Shannon, he led this junior team in many a successful cup winning game. Joining senior ranks with Farryowen while still in his teens, he at once became the inspiration of the team, and was one of the finest forward leaders in the game. He figured in no fewer than five victorious Munster Cup winning teams, and captained the side which won the trophy in 1926. He also was selected on the Munster provincial teams, had had a few matches in the Gaelic Irish trials, and many there are who feel that he was well worthy to wear an Irish international cap. On his retirement from active participation in the game he became President of his club; President of the North Munster Sub-Committee and also held the highest office in the Munster League, and up to the time of his death was a member of the Irish Selection Five.

Taking a keen interest in rowing, the late Mr Quilligan was a life-long member of the Athlunkard Club, and acted as its Hon. Secretary for a number of years, and struck several crews.

An exemplary citizen in every way, the deceased was a most devout Catholic, being a Silver Jubilee of the Arch-Confraternity of the Holy Family attached to the Redemptorist Church. He was a true patriot, and in the days of the Anglo-Irish war as a member of the I.R.A. took a prominent part in the fight for Irish independence.

The deepest sympathy, in which we most unreservedly join, is expressed on all sides with his widow and five children and the other members of his family in their irreparable loss.

Among the numerous messages of sympathy received by the bereaved family were those from the I.R.F.U., the Munster Branch, the Limerick and Cork clubs, and clubs from many other centres.

The remains were removed from his late residence last night to St. Patrick's Parish Church, and were accompanied by some thousands of the citizens anxious to pay tribute to the memory of one who was a great figure in life, and to show sympathy with his dear ones left to mourn his loss. The Mayor, City Manager, the members of the Corporation, and citizens drawn from all walks of life swelled this vast cortege, a fraction of which could only gain accommodation within the precincts of the church, where Requiem Mass for the repose of the deceased's soul will be celebrated to-morrow (Wednesday) morning at 10 o'clock, after which the funeral will take place at 11 a.m. to St. Lawrence Cemetery.