

# Sad Drownings

## Arthur's Quay Tragedy

### Inquest Evidence

A verdict of accidental death due to asphyxia, following immersion in water, was returned by the Coroner, Mr J S McNeelan, solicitor, at an inquest held in Barrington's Hospital on Saturday afternoon into the double drowning tragedy in which Francis Mullany (7) and Anthony Fogarty (4) lost their lives.

Supt P Collins conducted the inquiry.

Mrs Madge Carrig, Arthur's Quay, stated she was standing at the door of her house at about 8 o'clock on Friday eve. She saw her son David lying on the edge of the quay with Anthony Fogarty and Francis Mullany. All three were looking over the edge into the water. She immediately went towards them and as she did she heard a splash. She then began to run and on reaching the edge saw Fogarty's head just beneath the water. She did not know the second boy had fallen in until her son told her. When she gave the alarm Joseph Hannon came on the scene and dived in, but could not locate either child.

Joseph Hannon, Francis street, would be run out when he heard Mrs Carrick calling. He saw Fogarty in the water about six feet out from the quay wall and dived in. Another boy also dived in, but they failed to locate the bodies.

Guard Leahan said he procured a boat and with the aid of some men recovered the body of Fogarty at nine o'clock and Mullany half an hour later.

Dr J G Tynan, house surgeon, Barrington's Hospital, stated death was due to asphyxia following immersion in the water.

The Coroner, having sympathized with the bereaved parents, said he desired to commend the two young men—Hannon and Sheehan—who, although unfortunately not successful, did everything possible to save the children. The spot where the tragedy occurred was a dangerous one, and although there had been very few accidents there, he thought the Corporation should do something about enclosing it to safeguard other children. There was no protection from the quay wall.

Supt Collins joined in expressing appreciation of the efforts of Hannon and Sheehan to recover the bodies.