

TRAGIC DEATH

Found On Roadside

EVIDENCE AT INQUEST

The circumstances connected with the death of Mr. Patrick Cahill, Civil Bill Officer, Limerick, who was found unconscious on the roadside on Sun., 28th July, were investigated at an inquest opened in the County Hospital, Ennis, before Dr. J. H. Counihan, Coroner, and jury.

The first witness was Dr. J. B. MacClancy, County Surgeon, who stated that, on Sunday, July 25th, as he was returning in his motor car to Ennis he came on the scene of the accident in the townland of Rushane, Guard Hickey, who was amongst the crowd, gave witness the history of what had happened. The injured man was lying on the side of the road, his head being placed on a neatly folded overcoat. He was deeply unconscious and witness noticed a large fresh abrasion on the left side of the forehead. On examining the man, witness found that there were no broken bones. He directed Guard Hickey to have the man removed to a neighbouring house and, with the aid of other men, the Guard did so. Witness proceeded to Ennis and sent the ambulance for the man's immediate removal to the Co. Hospital. Witness attended the man on his admission and up to the time of his death. On the morning after admission witness had an X-Ray photograph taken which did not disclose any fracture of the skull. The man regained consciousness somewhat on Monday evening for a short time. Witness was able to understand from his motions through questions asked that the deceased was a widower, but, as regards the accident, the deceased was unable to tell anything about it. He asked the deceased if he remembered the accident and the deceased intimated with a shake of his head that he did not.

On Wednesday evening the man became embarrassed, and, at 2 o'clock on Thursday morning, witness saw him again. The man died at 7.30, the cause of death being heart failure due to concussion of the brain as a result of the accident. The injuries the deceased sustained would be consistent with the fall off a bicycle and coming in contact with the ground. There was a large bruise on the left hip and thigh which became discoloured.

Francis Cahill, 77, Henry Street, Limerick, identified the remains as those of his brother. His brother, he said, was a Civil Bill officer attached to the Limerick City Court and lived in the City Courthouse. He was a widower aged 56. Witness saw his brother on Saturday evening, 24th July. His brother told him that he was going cycling to Lahinch the following day for a day's outing. His brother was a good cyclist and had often cycled from Limerick to Cork. On Monday, 26th July, witness was notified of the accident and he proceeded to the Co. Hospital in Ennis where he saw his brother in bed. He was partly conscious and was able to recognise witness and his own daughter, whom witness took with him. When witness asked what had happened, his brother only nodded and muttered something that witness could not understand. His brother's sight was a bit defective and he used to wear thick glasses.

Guard William Hickey said that, on Sunday, 25th July, he was cycling from Lahinch and reached the townland of Rushane about a quarter to eight in the evening. A crowd of people had assembled and, when he got off his bicycle, he saw a man lying unconscious on the right-hand side of the road leading to Ennis. The man was breathing heavily and had wounds as described by Dr. MacClancy. One of the legs of his trousers was torn at the knee and looked as if the man had come in contact with the road. Witness tried to find out what had happened but he did not address any questions to the injured man. Witness was approached by a man named Quinlivan from Limerick, who told witness that the man on the roadside had fallen off his bicycle, and that he (Quinlivan) had seen him fall. Quinlivan also added that he had joined the man a short time before that, but did not know who he was. At that stage, Dr. MacClancy arrived, and the man was taken to a nearby house and placed on a bed. The man's bicycle was against a wall and looked as if some person had placed it there. There was nothing on the bicycle to show that it had come in contact with any object. The road at the place was 16 feet wide. On the left-hand side, travelling towards Ennis, there was a cement water table, very close to the ditch, on the outside of which there was a rough grating. It occurred to witness that the deceased man had been cycling on his proper side and, when going down the hill, applied the brakes, and that the bicycle went from under him on account of the rough grating. Witness found marks on the road consistent with the skid of the bicycle.

On the application of Inspector Comer, the inquest was adjourned for the attendance of Quinlivan.

"kippens" gathered in Hogan's land when she met complainant. Witness always used the passage was through complainant's land and was using it on this occasion. She denied emphatically taking one "kippen" from complainant's land. Defendant was fined 2/- with 2/- in lieu of costs.

ALLIED PROGRESS

Reported From Two Fronts

NEW RUSSIAN OFFENSIVE, SAYS BERLIN

German Radio said to-day that German and Italian troops have had to withdraw in the central sector in Sicily.

To-day's North African communique reports the capture by the 8th Army of Acireale, a town on the east coast road, about ten miles north of Catania.

A landing by American troops in the north coast had intercepted Axis reinforcements coming from the direction of Messina.

The landing was unopposed, and the reinforcements were driven back.

Three hundred prisoners were taken by the United States' 7th Army.

Continuous fresh forces hurled by the Allies in the battle in the centre has compelled the Italian and German units to yield further ground, says Rome Radio.

According to New York Radio the American 7th Army has made a substantial advance beyond Troina.

Its junction with the British 8th Army is not far off.

The following Allied joint communique was received in London to-day:—"Yesterday R.A.F. Beau-fighters on offensive patrol attacked Japanese railway and water communications in Lower Burma. The attacks covered waggons and engine sheds, which were shot up on the railway south of Trome, and after the attacks smoke was seen issuing from a number of waggons. "From these operations none of our aircraft is missing."

Russian forces pressing on with their movement to encircle Kharkov are threatening to cut off the main line of German retreat, and to-day were reported to be 16 miles from the city.

Berlin reports stated that the fighting on the whole Russian front is very difficult.

The German News Agency said heavy defensive fighting west and south-west of Byelgorod, into which the Russians threw heavy infantry and tank forces, with heavy fighter aircraft, continues with undiminished violence.

Moscow Radio to-day announced the capture of the town of Lbedka, some 19 miles west of Orel.

Lebedka represents a further push of six miles west of the railway station of Naryskino, the fall of which was officially announced by Moscow overnight.

Three Soviet armies advancing from the north-west and south-west are rapidly approaching Karachev, key station, 26 miles east of Briansk, and 75 miles west of Orel.

A new Russian break through in the Orel sector was reported by German Radio to-day.

One local break through, said the announcer, was sealed off with considerable losses to the enemy.

West and south-west of Byelgorod heavy defensive battles are continuing.

Berlin announced last night that the Russians had opened a new offensive on the Leningrad front.

The German News Agency to-day reported that a submarine attack on a German convoy off the coast of Norway, on Saturday, was unsuccessful.

Rome Radio said to-day that the last raid on Turin—the 22nd of the war—was mainly directed against the centre of the city.

Numerous explosions and thousands of incendiaries caused considerable damage.

PUBLIC PRAYERS FOR PEACE

The Pope has written to Cardinal Maglione, Pontifical Secretary of State, asking him to order public prayers for the return of peace among the nations.

The German overseas radio said on Friday night, according to Reuter, that the Pope had asked his Secretary of State "to make arrangements that in all nations services of intercession should be held and prayers said for the re-establishment of peace."

THE CORPORATION

The agenda for a meeting of Limerick Corporation to be held to-morrow evening at 7.30 consists of a dozen items. One of them is "to consider letter from Councillor C. V. O'Malley tendering his resignation as a member of the City of Limerick Vocational Education Committee, and to fill the vacancy thus created." Another is "naming roads in the Prospect Housing Scheme."

HOME ASSISTANCE

The total number of persons in receipt of home assistance in Limerick on 31st of July was 951. The cost of that assistance during the five weeks ended on the date mentioned was £779 19s. 4d., an average of £155 19s. 10d. per week.

HURLING IN CLARE

At Newmarket-on-Fergus yesterday, in the Clare senior hurling championship semi-final, Clooney (holders) were defeated after a thrilling contest by Clarecastle. Final scores were—Clarecastle, 4 goals 5 points; Clooney, 2 goals 2 points.

HARBOUR BOARD

Question Of Joining Conference

USE OF DOCKS FOR DRILL

The Mayor (Mr. J. McQuane, P.C.) presided at a meeting of Limerick Harbour Commissioners to-day.

The other members present were: Ald. D. Bourke, T.D.; Ald. J. Carew, Messrs. P. J. Donnellan, M. Maguire, B.C.; E. Holliday.

Mr. D. McNaice, Secretary, was in attendance.

Galway Harbour Commissioners wrote asking if the Limerick Board would be prepared to join in a conference for the purpose of considering what proposals, if any, should be made to the Government for providing for the maintenance of Irish harbours during the period of the emergency.

At present, the letter went on, no Government funds were available for the contingency that had arisen regarding the maintenance of harbours in the absence of adequate revenue, and, obviously, financial assistance could be entertained only when the needs of the harbours as a whole had been made known to the Government.

"VIRTUALLY NO REVENUE."

The position at present was that harbours, such as Galway, had virtually no revenue and were already heavily in debt for maintenance charges, notwithstanding that the most rigid economies have been effected.

It may now be regarded as probable that the emergency will be of very prolonged duration, and, in the opinion of the Galway Commissioners, it did not seem to be in the national interest that harbours should be obliged to continue to borrow for ordinary maintenance to such an extent that their future development may be rendered extremely difficult, if not impossible.

Secretary—We had a similar application from the Cork Harbour Board some months ago, and we agreed to join with them. I communicated with Cork.

Mr. Donnellan—Waterford did not come in.

On the proposition of Ald. Bourke, seconded by Ald. Carew, the Board decided to fall in with the Galway proposal.

USE OF DOCKS FOR DRILL INSTRUCTION.

A letter was read from Mr. M. H. Hanley, Adjutant of the Limerick L.S.F., asking the Board to grant permission for the use of the site end of the Docks for the purpose of drill instruction to the Groups of the Local Security Force. The District Staff, the letter added, would be much obliged if these facilities were granted.

The Board unanimously granted the request.

JESUITS TRANSFERRED

Two well-known Jesuit priests, Rev. Robert Dillon-Kelly and Rev. Michael Meany, have been notified of their transfers from Limerick to Galway and Clongowes, respectively. Both have been on the teaching staff of the Sacred Heart Church for many years. Father Dillon-Kelly came to Limerick over twenty-five years ago, and was Church choir-master. He evinced a deep interest in music, generally operatic and orchestral. The drama, on which he wrote with critical penetration, made a strong appeal to him, especially the native fare. The translation from the city of Fathers Dillon-Kelly and Meany will be regretted by numerous friends.

POPE'S REPLY TO BISHOP OF LIMERICK

On the occasion of the recent bombing of Rome, the Bishop of Limerick, Most Rev. Dr. Keane, sent a telegram of sympathy to His Holiness the Pope. On Friday he received the following reply from Cardinal Maglione, Papal Secretary of State:—"Holy Father deeply touched by loyal message of sympathy on recent sad events. Thanks. He imparts to Bishop, priests and people of the Diocese of Limerick the Apostolic Benediction.—Cardinal Maglione."

CITY MUSEUM

Recent presentations to Limerick City Museum include the following:—Great crested Grebe shot near Thomond Weir, October, 1941, and Oyster Catcher shot in Island Fields, October, 1942 (both presented by Mr. W. W. Gleeson, Mary Street); Statuta et Constitutiones Diocesis Limericensis, Limerick, McAuliff, 1804, and Miscellaneous Coins (both presented by Very Rev. Canon Hogan, Abbeyfeale).

COURTESY CALLS

Very Rev. Dr. Hodges, Protestant Bishop, his Honor Judge Barra O'Brian and Very Rev. Father Coogan, C.S.S.R., Rector Mount St. Alphonsus (representing the Provincial) have returned the courtesy calls by the Mayor (Mr. J. McQuane, P.C.).

MEAT CANNING FACTORIES

The meat canning factories in Eire are again in production, but it would appear that the supply of suitable cattle is considerably below requirements. Total production is about 20,000,000 lbs. per year.

Mr. Charles O'Malley, L.D.S., has

THE LIGHT!

Who Has Seen It?

LIMERICK'S "ELUSIVE PIMPERNEL"

"They seek him here, they seek him there, the residents seek him everywhere. Is he in Killeely or Pennywell—Limerick's midnight Pimpernel?"

For the past week Limerick has feasted itself on a new "terror" story—the story of a midnight visitant who flashes a light, disappears with the speed of lightning, hangs by his finger-tips from rooftops and frightens women into fits of hysteria.

Staking his claim to the area around the new housing scheme at the Boming Field the "Elusive Pimpernel" makes his sudden appearances armed only (so far as current reports go) with a flashlight.

There is no report that he has attempted to enter a house or commit violence, and the descriptions of the marauder by those who allege they have seen him are so vague as to be practically useless to police investigators.

Meanwhile with the story gaining strength with each passing night, the residents in the locality have apparently banded themselves together to catch this strange night-pad.

So far their endeavours have been in vain. Some people have become so alarmed by the story that they are afraid to sleep at night, and a watch has been kept in back gardens in anticipation of the marauder's arrival.

His last manifestation is supposed to have occurred on Friday night in Schoolhouse Lane, in the neighbourhood of Leamy's School, when there was a general hue and cry, but again the "gentleman of the light" vanished without obligingly leaving any traces.

Since then there has not been any report that he has been seen.

Perhaps his battery has become exhausted.

DESTRUCTION OF SWANS

(To the Editor, "Limerick Leader.")

Sir,—The E.S.B. has ordered the total destruction, by shooting, of every swan on the Shannon and Abbey rivers. Before any protest could be made hundreds of these beautiful birds had been destroyed, and sold to Limerick poulterers, outside whose premises they now hang, to be purchased at the low price of 3/6 each.

As no excuse could justify the extermination of these "ornaments of our rivers," the man in the street has come to the conclusion that the recent rationing of electricity was due to the amount of water consumed by these legendary children of Lir! Hence the annihilation, the mopping-up operations of which are continuing by Shannon's shore.

W. W. G.

CHILD'S "JOY-RIDE"

While (writes our Kilmallock correspondent) Guard D. Kennedy, Kilmallock, was standing at the station gate he observed a truck coming towards the barrack. As the vehicle passed he saw a child sitting on the footboard and in very great danger of falling off. Fortunately the Guard was able to signal to a man to have the truck stopped, and when this was done the child was taken from its precarious position and brought back to town. The little one, who is about four years old, apparently stole a drive after the driver had entered the cab.

FOYNES GARDA STATION

Garda Meehan, a native of Donegal, has been transferred to Foynes. He was previously stationed in south-eastern Gardai districts. His appointment, with that of Garda O'Driscoll, a native of Bantry, who was also recently transferred from Co. Kerry to Foynes, were rendered necessary owing to the increased duties of the members of the Foynes Gardai Station.

SWAN'S WING AMPUTATED

A swan which had been seen trailing around Bray Harbour with a broken wing has been operated on after being caught by a boatman and brought ashore. The amputation was performed by Mr. Kelly, of the bird section of Dublin Zoo, and was apparently quite successful, as the bird has not since shown any signs of distress.

LIBRARY SERVICE

The number of books at present in stock in the Limerick Carnegie Library is 19,837. The average daily issue is 571, fiction accounting for 67.6 per cent. of the total issue. The estimated number of visitors to the newsroom daily is 100.

FEWER UNEMPLOYED

Total number on the registers of Employment Exchanges and branch offices in the Twenty-Six Counties on July 31 last was 49,582, compared with 48,968 the previous week, and 55,785 on the corresponding date last year.

IN MEMORIAM.

Casey (First Anniversary)—In sad and ever-loving memory of Mrs. Winifred Casey, 5 Roche's Street, Limerick, who died on August 10th, 1942. On whose soul, Sweet Jesus, have mercy. Masses offered. —Inserted by her loving husband and children.