

Unfit to Plead

County Murder Charge

Medical Evidence

In the Dublin Central Criminal Court, on Monday, before Mr Justice Overend and a jury, John W Moloney, Bridge House, Knocklong, a teacher, who was charged with the murder of Joseph Kirwan, vocational school inspector, was found unfit to plead owing to his mental condition. He was ordered to be kept in custody to await the Government's pleasure.

Mr P J McEnery, S O., who, with Mr T J Donovan (instructed by the Chief State Solicitor), said that the Attorney General considered it only right that a jury should be empanelled to try whether Moloney was fit to instruct Counsel and stand his trial.

Dr John Duane, Chief Resident Medical Superintendent, Grangegorman Mental Hospital, said that he examined Moloney on two occasions and came to the conclusion that he was suffering from delusions and was insane. It was a progressive form of delusions of persecution.

Dr F de Sales McMenamin said that he examined accused on January 9th and came to the conclusion that he was suffering from chronic delusional insanity. Moloney would, he said, be able to follow evidence, but would be likely to misinterpret it.

Mr O Casey, S O., with Mr D Bell (instructed by Mr Tynan, solicitor, Limerick), for Moloney.