

Sergeant John Costello, 7th Field Artillery Regiment, Salford Barracks, and he was attached to his Battery when he was killed; he was fond of gambling on greyhounds and horses, and drank only porter; on Saturday, 15th inst, he met the deceased at 7 p.m. in a licensed premises; they went to the greyhound race at the Markets Field; while there witness had bets on six out of the seven races and won on four; deceased won about fourteen pounds and he had about four pounds of his own; he purchased the "Limerick Chronicle" before going into the dogs and used it as a racing card.

Continuing, the witness said that after the racing Michael met two civilians in William street, and all four of them went into O'Donnell's licensed premises.

Inspector Fender—Had you many drinks?—We had four pints each, but after the third the two civilians left.

Before you came to O'Donnell's you had a conversation with the deceased?—Yes; Michael handed me ten pounds to keep for him, I refused, and said: "You are as well able to look after your money as I am."

When did you part with deceased?—I left him at the junction of Catherine street and William street at 10.30.

Inspector—What condition was he in at the time?—In my opinion he was sober and able to try himself.

Witness then gave evidence of identification, and added that he saw Captain Leahy searching the body, from which he removed a "Limerick Chronicle," a postal order for 10s, a betting slip and a small bottle of whiskey.

Replying to Mr O'Malley, witness said he had no idea where the deceased went when they parted.

Mr O'Malley—He was not depressed or worried?—No.

Nobody but yourself knew that he won £14 that night?—No; I don't think so.

Inspector Fender—Did you know that the deceased was in the habit of giving money over to other persons to mind for him?—I did.

Inspector—This is important in view of the fact that only £1 was found on the body.

Witness—Michael used to lend people money and was very off-headed with it.

Private James Lynch, 7th Field Regiment, stated he knew deceased for five years and that he was in the habit of betting; on two occasions he gave witness money to mind for him, and on September 14th he gave deceased 80s and on the 15th he gave him £12 which he had kept for him; he joined the deceased at 9.30 in a licensed premises on Saturday and stayed drinking until about 9.30; deceased had about seven pints before he left with Sergt Costello; deceased was not drunk, but was in good form; witness did not see him afterwards.

Coroner—You are not aware if deceased had any enemies? No, not as far as the Army is concerned; he was very popular.

Capt Leahy, M.O. 7th Field Artillery, gave evidence of finding the articles described by Sergt Costello on the body.

Comdt McGrath, O/D 7th Field Artillery, stated deceased was absent from the Barracks Barracks since Sunday night last; his Army record showed that he was 23 years and unmarried, and that his home address was Ashid, Co. Wick; deceased had leave of absence to 11.15 on Saturday night and also an Army pass to 11.30 on Sunday night.

Miss Annie Biske stated she was barmaid at Mr Reddan's premises in Wolfe Tone street, which the deceased used frequent with his companions; deceased was in the premises on Saturday night and had six or seven pints of stout before he left with Sergt Costello; on Sunday witness was on between 1 p.m. and 2 p.m. when deceased came in and had a drink; he was sober and as far as she remembered there was no other sold at there; he paid for the drink with silver and left after five minutes; the deceased was simply pleasant, but as this recollection was somewhat faint.

Coroner—Could you possibly be making a mistake when you say you saw deceased

fixed for the Harbour Board, and the ou tract which had just expired had lasted for seven years, under which ducks and geese were treated under the public lighting scale. At present only four of the 22 lamps in the docks were in use, and the Supply Board now refused to renew the contract unless an increase of 40 per cent was paid for the lighting. With all the lamps were in use the total increase in cost would be 375 per cent.

Mr Goodbody suggested that it might be possible to get a dynamo and oil engine with a view to lighting the docks privately.

The Engineer said that he had been in correspondence with the Supply Board, and was informed that they would no longer treat the docks under the public lighting scale.

The board decided to enter a strong protest against the action of the E.S.B.

The Secretary reported that two regular traders, two coasters and three overseas vessels had entered the port since the last meeting.

Limerick County Council (Housing Section)

Additional Allotment Scheme O.P.O. 1941

Notice To Fencing Contractors

Applications are invited from competent persons and particularly from the tenants of the cottages enclosed for the provision of and fences in accordance with details prepared by the County Engineer, Mr P. J. Sheahan, 47 O'Connell street, Limerick, around the additional allotments by the Limerick County Council for cottage tenants.

The Council is prepared to allow a sum of 1s per Irish perch for new fencing and proportionate amounts, to be decided by the Engineer, not exceeding 2s per Irish perch for repair work, such prices to include for the planting of those guilks, which will be supplied free to contractors, and for the construction of stone gullies where necessary up to a maximum cross sectional area two square feet. Large gullies shall, where considered necessary by the Engineer, form the subjects of separate estimates. Details of construction, to be read in conjunction with this advertisement, will be supplied to successful applicants.

Applications should be forwarded to Mr P. J. Sheahan, Co. Engineer, 47 O'Connell street, Limerick, and so to reach him not later than Saturday, 13th October, 1941.

Fencing work will start on or after 15th October, 1941, as directed by the County Engineer. The Council reserves the right to refuse any application made by any applicant.

J. J. KING, Chief Officer.

Office: Newcastlewest, 12/9/41.

on Sunday?—No.

It could not have been on the previous Friday or Saturday?—No.

Did the deceased ask for his companions?—No.

This concluded the evidence.

The Coroner said he was perfectly satisfied the deceased met his death accidentally but there was nothing to show how he fell into the water. In view of the fact that he had an appointment with Sergt Costello for Sunday it was obvious that he did not intend to take his own life, and the probability was that he had a little too much drink and wandered down to the river, where he fell in.

Returning a verdict that death was due to asphyxia following immersion in water, the Coroner expressed sympathy with the relatives of the deceased, in which Inspector Fender joined on behalf of the Garda.

Comdt McGrath said deceased was an excellent soldier and extremely popular with his comrades. He was generally recognised as a good soldier by all ranks in the Army, and he would be given the Army's sympathy with the bereaved relatives.