

# Victims of The Storm

## Lough Derg Tragedy

### Canal Boat Swamped—Three Lives Lost

Three men were drowned when a Grand Canal company's barge which was being towed through Lough Derg on the Shannon on Sunday parted from the towing boat, overturned and sank almost immediately. The storm, with a wind blowing at 50 miles an hour, was described by the skipper of the towing boat, St James, as one of the worst he had experienced for 23 years.

The only survivor—Thomas Ennis, of co Kildare—said when he was thrown into the water he grasped some plank and was washed ashore.

The men in the St James were, unfortunately, unable to render any assistance.

Only one body, that of John Boland (48) married, had been recovered up to last night. The two missing are Edward Gleeson (26), skipper, and James McGrath (26) both unmarried, and all of Derrymullen Robertstown, co Kilkeany.

Mr McGrath, who was not employed by the company, was stated to have joined the barge on a pleasure trip.

At an inquest at Portroe last evening on John Boland, a verdict of death due to drowning was returned.

The barge shipped a lot of water in the teeth of a terrific gale, heeled over and disappeared in over one fathom, so said Thomas Ennis, single, and a native of Graoge, Clane, Kilmeague, co Kildare, the only survivor of the barge M 45 which sank in the River Shannon.

The dead are John Boland, married (body recovered); Engine Driver Edward Gleeson, skipper, single; James McGrath, single.