

SHOCKING CO. LIMERICK TRAGEDY

PARISH PRIEST SHOT DEAD

Terrible Occurrence At Askeaton

FATHER CASEY KILLED OUTSIDE PRESBYTERY

Deformed Man Charged

A shocking tragedy occurred in Askeaton last night in which Rev. Father Patrick Casey, P.P., Askeaton, was shot dead just outside his own house.

The shooting took place shortly after nine o'clock, when Father Casey went to investigate the barking of his dogs in the grounds. He had barely left the house when his housekeeper, Miss Hannah Curtin, heard a shot. Almost immediately she heard Father Casey call her name. On going out she heard a moan and then found Father Casey lying unconscious in a pool of blood on a cement path running beside the gable end of the house. She called him but he did not speak or move and Miss Curtin went at once for the curate, Father David Rea, who lives nearby. She also sent for Dr. Fitzgibbon.

On arriving at the scene, Father Rea administered the Last Sacraments and had the dying priest brought into the house. Dr. Fitzgibbon arrived shortly afterwards and pronounced life extinct. Father Casey had been shot between the shoulders.

"I SHOT THE PRIEST."

Subsequently a man called to Askeaton Garda Station and handing a shotgun to Garda Kelly, said, "I have shot the priest."

At a special Court held in Askeaton this morning, John Joseph Cullinan (29), a small farmer of Morgans North, Borrigone, Foynes, was charged with the murder of Father Casey and remanded in custody. Cullinan, who is unmarried, lived with his father and mother. Borrigone is in the adjoining parish to Askeaton.

The State Pathologist, Dr. McGrath, will arrive in Askeaton this evening to carry out a post-mortem and an inquest will be formally opened and adjourned by Mr. M. E. Cussen, solicitor, Coroner for West Limerick.

Father Casey got the full charge from the cartridge between the

shoulders, not a single pellet being found in the wall or vicinity of the shooting. It is believed he died almost immediately.

The terrible tragedy has cast a deep gloom over the district, and when a *Limerick Leader* reporter visited Askeaton this morning he found the town in mourning. All shops and business premises are shuttered and blinds are drawn in private dwellings.

The remains of Father Casey will be interred in the local church grounds to-morrow.

THE ACCUSED MAN.

The accused, John Joseph Cullinan, is aged 29 years, and unmarried. He lived with his father and mother at Morgans North, Borrigone. He is badly deformed and his infirmity was further aggravated some months ago as the result of an accident. It is stated that he suffered from delusions and that of late his mental balance was not regarded as quite normal.

The late Father Casey was born in the Parish of Ardpatrik in 1876. From the local National School he entered St. Munchin's College, Limerick, and having completed his secondary education there, proceeded to Maynooth, where he was ordained in 1900. He served in the Mission for a period at Liverpool, and having been recalled home, he laboured as Curate in St. Munchin's, Ballingarry, Askeaton, Bulgaden and Castlemahon. Over twenty years ago he was appointed Parish Priest of Ballyhahill, and in 1940 he was translated to Askeaton.

Father Casey, a man of great erudition, was a brilliant preacher, and his tragic death has cast a gloom over the whole Diocese. He was extremely popular with his parishioners, who suffered a keen sense of shock when the news of the appalling tragedy spread this morning. All through the day there was a constant stream of sympathisers to the parochial house.

SITES ASKED FOR TO

Limerick As Oil Depot

APPLICATIONS TO HARBOUR BOARD

Sites for the erection of oil tanks at Limerick docks have been applied for to Limerick Harbour Board. The Texas Oil Company intend to make Limerick a depot for the surrounding area, and for supplying Rineanna. These facts transpired at a meeting of the Board held to-day, Mr. T. J. Loughrey presiding.

A letter was read from Cement Ltd., asking for a small site at the docks for the erection of two oil storage tanks.

The Engineer said that he had discussed the matter with Cement, Ltd., and had recommended a site that should meet their requirements.

Chairman—What space do they want?

Engineer—They are looking for 55 feet by 108 feet.

Mr. McMahon—The site you recommend won't interfere with other accommodation?

Engineer—No.

M. McMahon—We should get an assurance that this oil will be imported through the port.

Engineer—That will be done. I want to make it clear that this site will not interfere with proposed industrial sites.

It was unanimously decided to give the required site, the rent to be fixed later.

The Engineer said that the Texas Oil Company had intimated that they proposed to avail of the option given them on a site of 1½ acres at the docks for the erection of oil tanks. The intention of the Company was to make Limerick a depot for the surrounding area and also a depot for supplying Rineanna. It was proposed to erect the following tanks—two of 800 tons each, two of 600 tons each, two of 200 tons each and two of 1,000 gallons each. The Company also intended to erect garage, pump house, stores and offices on the site at a probable cost of £20,000. The Company wanted 90,000 square feet, but he would be able to give them 78 square feet or one and three-quarter acres.

Answering Mr. McMahon, the Engineer said that the space to be given to the Oil Company would not interfere with available accommodation for the storage of timber.

It was decided to give the site to the Texas Oil Company and the question of the fixing of a rent was referred to a sub-committee.

Mr. Whelan—I presume the Texas Company will bring their petroleum through the port of Limerick?

Engineer—Yes, in 1,500 ton tankers.

Chairman—That will be a good thing for the port.

The matter was not further discussed.

THE BISHOP-ELECT

CONGRATULATIONS FROM G.A.A. BOARD

At a meeting of the Limerick Co. Board of the G.A.A. on Saturday, Rev. E. Punch, P.P., presiding.

The Secretary, Mr. J. O'Connell, proposed that their congratulations be extended to the Bishop-Elect, Most Rev. Patrick O'Neill, to whom they wished many years of life and happiness in his exalted office.

Mr. M. Fitzgibbon (Treasurer) seconded and the proposition was passed unanimously.

"TOO CARELESS"

JUDGE AND LORRY DRIVERS

At Nenagh Circuit Court on Friday, Judge Sealy affirmed a sen-

TAKEN

Ship At The Docks

YOUNG MAN ENDED

Civil Bill Court to J. M. Flood, B.L.,

(16), 4B, Pearse and Gerard Lillis Barrington Street, charged with the m of money from cabin of the vessel, ertthed at the Lime- last Saturday, 5th money was made up ollars, 15 American egian dollars, and er, giving a total

pleaded guilty. prosecuted.

ony, in evidence.

Saturday last the

ted that a sum of

n stolen from a

cabin. On making

interrogated the

th at first denied

he discovered the

notes concealed in

ipping, and all the

n recovered with

7/10. There were

tions against both

urther stated that

ng on the ship for

r to the larceny.

n Couser came on

ok place.

said that it was

rceny from ships

eks.

made an order to

ined to an Indus-

he would sentence

onths imprisonment,

he was dealing

hem having regard

ature of the charge.

N VEHICLES

oo

BY CLARE D.J.

d fines on a number

Broadford Court for

lights on vehicles,

Gleeson issued a

to future offenders.

ving lights, he said,

be increased to 10/-

It was the last time

would be imposed

d no excuses would

because too many

n killed in the past

ssness. For years

of people had been

Act but that was

nd people going out

to carry lights, other-

st them a lot of

ourt had tried other

l. Any man who

ht without a light

own life as well as

er persons.

AND RUSSIA

report says that

University students

assembled at the

useum of Kamel

re are buried in

their country as in

ssion. They then

Central Square in

emonstrated against

torial claims of Tur-

nd provinces. The

without success to

demonstration. The

location appealed to

store calm without

BOMB QUESTION

s and news agencies

to-day carry stories

with the language of

Foreign Ministers

the atomic energy

ision is not accept

ANNUAL

The m

Centre of

hold their

Hotel to-

promises

successful

tial group

ance, like

to a prog-

that con-

observed

for the r

of the big

Limerick

the publ

forward d

and unfa

TO BE B

When A

Minister

merce, vis

inst. as t

of Comm

broadcast

Chamber,

gratulated

arranging

annual so

event is

effects on

of the

Limerick

some of

are antic

that trad

ing more

LANDSCA

Landscap

has been

Dobrzynsk

Consul-Ge

one time

Standish

the Caher

O'Gradys

place in

rick in

teenth ce

was Mayo

while oth

Their in

with the

which th

public li

tives.

OUR EX

Our ex

will hold

Hall on V

purpose

tion to p

Mayor

will pre

feel that

"square

asmuch

the emer

1939 are

fulfilled

who join

grave da

people a

proper

stored to

order to

NOT SA

Limeric

all satisf

of them-

per day-

Clouna