

## WILD CONDUCT

### "Battle" At Bunratty

#### TINKER TRIBE IN ACTION

A performance akin to that put up by a dancing Dervish was provided by Michael Casey, aged 30, a member of the travelling tinker tribe, at Bunratty, County Clare (writes our Ennis correspondent).

According to Supt. J. S. Flynn, who prosecuted Casey at Newmarket-on-Fergus District Court, on Thursday, before District Justice D. F. Gleeson, for assaulting a Civic Guard and civilian and being guilty of disorderly conduct, Casey, "a young man in the prime of manhood, peeled off his shirt, produced a knife and issued a challenge to fight, then generally acted like a dangerous young savage and fractured a Guard's finger in two places.

Evidence was given that the row started in a local public house which Michael Setright left as he deemed discretion the better part of valour. He was unlucky, however, as events turned out, because when just outside the house he was struck on the head with a bicycle, a remarkable weapon to use, as the District Justice remarked. Michael Flaherty, another occupant of the bar, was ejected by Casey, who threw a knife, peeled off his coat and shirt and pranced about the bar looking for fight. Sergeant P. O'Rourke, hearing the noise of glasses being broken in the bar, thought it time to interfere and entered the house.

#### MEMBERS OF THE TRIBE RUSH OUT

When he did, members of the tribe who were supporting Casey rushed out, including Casey himself, whom the Sergeant saw lifting the bicycle and "crashing it down on Setright's head." Then Casey jumped round the road looking for more fight and shouting for anybody to "come on." He also urged his followers to arm themselves with stones as he feared reprisals for the assault on Setright. The Sergeant sent for reinforcements of Guards and on their arrival succeeded in moving the party from Bunratty and proceeded to arrest Casey. Casey lay down on the ground and resisted arrest. The Guards were hampered in their efforts by members of the tribe, so the Sergeant decided to disperse them first and then turn his forces on Casey, whom he left in charge of Guard Lynch. He successfully routed the opposition and on his return the Guard found to his chagrin that the bird had flown. He had wriggled under a motor car which had been requisitioned to take him to the barrack.

## ACT OF HEROISM

### Recalled By Recent Death

#### TRIBUTE TO THE LATE CANON ABBOTT

The following interesting tribute to the late Canon Abbot was written by Mr. Patrick Conway, ex-N.T., Askeaton:—

The news of the death of Canon Abbot, which appeared in the "Irish Times" of May the 9th, 1946, was read with deep and sincere sorrow by the old inhabitants of Askeaton, where himself and Mrs. Abbot were deeply and deservedly respected, owing to their many acts of charity and kindness to the poor of the town.

On a cold frosty morning on May the 9th, 1918, two brothers, Con and Tom McMahon, were coming up the river Deel with a gondola of seaweed. A strong tide was flowing against them, and the elder boy, Tom, fell off the seaweed into the tide. Con was unable to do anything to rescue him. A large number of young men came to the scene and were also unable to help in his rescue. The Rev. Canon, cycling across the bridge, was told of the drowning accident, turned down the quay with great speed, and in a minute arrived at the scene of the accident. The Rev. Father Reidy, P.P., was on the opposite side of the river with the crowd, and was amazed to see the brave young clergyman dive off a cliff into the water, without divesting himself of even his coat. He was a splendid swimmer, and his first dive took him some time before he again came to the surface. He dived repeatedly and after some time Father Reidy begged him to give up the attempt. Canon Abbot returned to the river bank, and to the astonishment of the onlookers he dived again into the tide. The bed of the river at that particular spot was strewn with large boulders of rocks. Father Reidy then prevailed upon him to give up the attempt and save his own life.

The brave and heroic Canon walked to his residence, half a mile distant, with great regret that he was not on the scene of the accident a few minutes earlier. A large number of the seaweed workers went to his residence to thank him for his brave and heroic act, but the Canon expressed his regret at the sad occurrence, and replied in his usual gentlemanly manner—"I simply did my duty."

#### DRIVERS FINED

## HARBOUR BOARD

### L.B.C. Development

#### PROTESTS AGAINST E.S.B. CHARGES

Limerick Harbour Commissioners to-day were unanimously agreeable to letting portion of the quay wall to the Limerick Boat Club to provide for the Club's projected erection of a ballroom.

Mr. McGuire regarded as "very gratifying" that the L.B.C. should have built themselves up to the position where they could look towards development.

The Boat Club's letter to the Board explained that the purpose of the extension was to provide the Club with a ballroom on their premises. They could submit plans of their project for Board approval if required.

The Harbour Engineer (Mr. T. F. O'Sullivan) said he had no objection to letting the required space to the Club. Anticipating possible Board disagreement with the Club's request, since its implementing might interfere with harbour traffic, he said a precedent had already been set—the Shannon Rowing Club had been allowed to build on the quay stones.

The Engineer explained that the proposed extension was outside the existing building on the Quay Wall facing the Strand side; it would be a continuation of the Shannon Rowing Club's wall.

#### LIGHTING OF THE DOCKS.

The Board accepted the E.S.B. quotation of £45 10s. for the public lighting of the docks (four 500 watt lamps from a half hour after sunset each evening of the contract period to 1 a.m.) during the 1946/47 period.

Members protests were loud when the Secretary read a letter from the Minister for Industry and Commerce, in reply to a request from the Board, refusing to intervene in the Commissioners "row" with the E.S.B. regarding the alleged excessive charges for public lighting in Limerick. A proposition, unanimously adopted, called for an amendment of legislation in order to level E.S.B. charges throughout the country.

Mr. McGuire felt the Board should not just complacently read the Minister's "non-intervention" letter; they should not let the matter pass without another protest.

"The city is being crippled with the cost of electricity since the recent increase," Mr. Maguire angrily stated. "It is going to restrict the future development of Limerick. It is in the interests of the Harbour Commissioners, as well as of citizens, that this should not continue indefinitely. We

## MUSICA

### A Splen

#### THE CECIL

On Sunday I was present at Limerick, to hear a concert by the Cecilia Society. I became aware through an unobtrusive in a city shop the previous week.

What first attracted attention was the high quality of their Society's ambitious programme itself, however, reflecting that it was the intercession of the Cecilia Society to see it through. It was, therefore, feelings that I had a cosy little Hall to say the least, ably surprised to come is to put honestly state moment the R raised his baton the concert with them, until he denouement applause, I found with amazement.

I had not heard previously, and so excellent a was not better so widely esteemed.

Excellent voice rendered by Miss Penny. Both the up to their gr their tumultuous deserved.

Now for a res items:—

No. 1—"Egmo hoven). This composition.

and oboe passage paniment of str done. The last piece was taken quick tempo, necessitated pa A marked featu is the frequent This has been t a conductor; bu tor left no dou his performers and must be a for a masterly cult a piece.

The first viol Whitaker, had out of work in acquitted the They were ably violins, cellos, v cussion and bra crescendos, an part in the succ climaxes. The mirably done b