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THE VOGUE

THE STOCKING SHOP

DOCKS TRAGEDY

Little Boy Drowned

PATHETIC STORY AT INQUEST

SIX and a half years old William Flanagan, 1 Prospect Hill, Edward Street, Limerick, went to the Limerick Docks on Sunday evening last with Anthony Culhane (7). The two boys played at fishing, young Flanagan being equipped with a thread reel and a length of twine. They climbed down the pier steps at Russell's Quay to the water's edge, where William cast the reel into the river. Putting in his hand to recover the reel, he went down and fell into the Shannon. When two hours later, after extensive dragging, his body was recovered, he was dead. A Red Cross ambulance took the little body to Barrington's Hospital.

INQUEST STORY

That was the story told to Deputy City Coroner, Mr. J. S. McNiece, solr., at an inquest on Tuesday into the circumstances of William Flanagan's death.

Dr. Francis Crowe, House Surgeon, Barrington's Hospital, swore that when deceased was taken into Barrington's at 7.15 on Sunday evening, he was dead of asphyxiation following immersion in water.

William Flanagan, father of the drowned boy gave evidence of identification. He had last seen his son alive at the house of the boy's grandmother in Parnell Street early in the afternoon of Sunday.

Anthony Culhane (7) said he and the deceased played on the steps of Russell's Quay for some time on Sunday evening. Young Flanagan had a reel and twine in his hand, pretending to be fishing. Witness saw him put his hand into the water to get the reel out and, on bending down, he fell into the river.

RECOVERY OF BODY

Patrick Mescall, a dock boatman, swore that on hearing some commotion near the scene of the tragedy, he went there immediately and searched for the body which he located later. He assisted in taking it out of the water.

The Coroner returned a verdict that the deceased died from asphyxiation caused by accidental drowning. He paid a tribute to Mr. Mescall and the other persons who helped in recovering the boy's body and condoled with the parents in their loss.

Inspector Griffin, on behalf of the Gardai, joined with the Coroner's expression of sympathy.

FOR PROTECTION

(To the Editor, "Limerick Leader.") Sir—Don't you think it is time for the Limerick Harbour Board to appoint watermen along our quays? There were always harbour watchmen doing duty. They would be a protection first to life and then to Harbour property. The Board should be in a financial position to replace those watchmen as of old.

FINED INSTEAD

Removal Of Jail Sentences

CIRCUIT COURT APPEAL

JOHN Joseph Cosgrave, Bengal Terrace, Limerick, appealed in the Limerick Circuit Court, before Judge Barra O Briain, S.C., against the decision of Justice Hurley in sentencing him to one month's imprisonment for driving a motor car without the consent of the owner and one month for driving the car while not insured, both sentences to run concurrently.

Mr. D. J. O'Malley, solicitor, was for the appellant, while Mr. M. M. Power, State Solicitor, appeared for the Attorney-General.

Sergeant Thomas Farrell gave evidence of the appellant taking the car without the consent of the owner and he had drink in him on the occasion. There was nothing against him previously, and he was now employed since losing the employment which he was in around the time that the offence took place.

Cross-examined—Witness agreed that the matter was reported to him by the appellant shortly after the occurrence and the car was an old-fashioned one.

John Joseph Cosgrave gave evidence that while on his way home he sat into the car and drove it out the main road towards Bengal Terrace. Subsequently he went to the Guards with the owner of the car when he realised that he had done something wrong.

Mr. O'Malley pleaded that the appellant was a young man, and as a result of the occurrence he lost his employment, but had now got another job. The appellant took a quantity of drink on the occasion and he could not assign any reason for his action.

The Judge said that the offence of taking the car was very serious, and it had been made all the more serious by reason of the fact that the car was not covered by insurance. If the appellant had injured somebody nothing could be recovered from him. He was not charged with driving while under the influence of drink, though it appeared that he had too much drink taken. He had a good character and for a first offence he (Judge) was loath to send him to jail. He (Judge) would affirm the District Justice's conviction, but would vary the order by removing the jail sentences and impose a fine of £6 in respect of each offence, and allow three months to pay.

AFTER TWELVE YEARS

After 12 years on the Australian Mission, the Rev. T. J. Murphy has returned on a visit to his old home in Abbeyfeale. There are a number of other priests from Abbeyfeale on the Australian Mission (writes our Abbeyfeale correspondent).

We all sympathise with the parents of the drowned boy.—Yours faithfully,

DAVID O'SULLIVAN,
Henry St., Limerick. 5/6/49.

SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT

We wish to inform our many customers and the public in general that we are now in a position to carry out all watch and clock repairs at almost pre-war prices.

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