

Stephen Coughlan gave evidence that he saw a man putting his hands to the radiator of a Baby Ford car after the accident and stopping it. This man then said to the other: "You say you were driving."

Coming before the Court each week and in most cases the evidence went to show that the brakes of the defendants' vehicles were only partially binding on one wheel. He had no hesitation in saying that people who drove vehicles in such a condition were potential murderers.

VALUE OF TREES LESSON OF THE PRESENT DROUGHT

(To the Editor, "Limerick Leader.")

Dear Sir,—The present drought emphasises an important aspect of afforestation, which is the more equable distribution of water over the twelve months of the year. As things are at present, this country is in the unenviable position of being unable to enjoy a month's dry weather in comfort after enduring, perhaps, six of rain. For some period almost every year towns and country alike suffer from a shortage of water, although more rain falls in the interval than would be sufficient to provide supplies for a much longer spell. The reason lies largely in the fact that treeless hills and mountains are unable to hold the water in the earth, where it rightfully belongs, instead of allowing it to rush back to the sea, via flooded rivers and streams. When heavy rains fall on wooded slopes, on the other hand, their force is broken by the canopy of the trees, which interposes between them and the ground beneath. Instead of rushing headlong downhill, carrying soil and stone into the valleys, to choke the swollen streams, the resulting waters are checked by the trees, absorbed by their leaf-mould and given off gradually to the rivers of the watershed. Sinking deep into the earth, a large proportion of them help to feed artesian springs, which are thus better enabled to withstand prolonged periods, as in the present instance of dry weather.

—Yours faithfully,

T. KENNEDY.

The People's Park, Limerick, 8th July, 1949.

THE PIONEER RALLY

Kildimo and Pallaskenry Branches of the Pioneer T.A.A. were represented in Dublin on Sunday, June 26th, in connection with the Golden Jubilee of the P.T.A.A. A special Mass was celebrated by Rev. G. Ryan, C.C. at Kildimo.

FINE QUALITIES DEATH OF RETIRED TEACHER

Death has removed a very estimable personality in the person of Mr. Joseph F. Hanly, who passed away at his residence, 3 Coolrairie, Ennis Road, Limerick, on Friday, July 1st. The deceased was for a long period up to his retirement on pension a few years ago the Principal of Abbeyfeale Boys National School. A most energetic and successful teacher, he was held in warm regard and confidence by managers, inspectors, parents and pupils alike. Amongst his colleagues in the teaching profession he was highly respected and popular, as was evidenced by the fact that from time to time he was elected by them to high positions in the I.N.T.O. A kindly, genial, lovable figure, he was the possessor of many fine traits and dispositions that endeared him to all who knew him. Of strongly nationalist instincts, he was one of the most prominent workers in the Gaelic League in its earlier years. For many years, indeed, he was himself a successful competitor in the dancing sections at Feiseanna all over the country. By hard work himself and by encouragement to others, he did great work for the language cause and remained an ardent and sincere Irish-Irelander to the end. He was in every sense a truly fine type of Irishman and no one could know him intimately without being attracted by the splendid characteristics that were his. To his sorrowing wife and daughter and other bereaved relatives we extend our very sincere sympathy on his demise. The funeral took place on Saturday last, 2nd inst., from St. Munchin's Church to Mount St. Lawrence Cemetery, the cortege being of a large and very representative character.

TRANSFER OF CIVIC GUARD

Guard James Bugler, stationed at Kilmeedy for the past fifteen years, has been transferred to the more important Garda station at New-

CARTERS' LETTER FROM CHAIRMAN

(To the Editor, "Limerick Leader.")

Dear Sir—In Wednesday's issue of your paper Mr. J. J. O'Connell, Engineer, claims the right of the motor lorry to the coal wharf in port for the Gas Works. The Hired Carmen object to this on the grounds that they have carted the full cargo for the past 100 years as when the Gas Works were at Watergate.

Mr. Thomas also states that the rate to the Gas Works is more than that charged to other coal merchants.

At present the rate is 7½d. per ton more than other coal merchants, but the Hired Carmen from the dock at Home and the Menta distance of almost two miles, at the same rate coal merchants pay for coal from the dock to industrial firms, about the same distance.

Yours faithfully,

HENRY DALY

Hired Carmen

77 Mungret St., Limerick
July 8th, 1949.

GAS ENGINEER'S

Mr. F. K. Thomas, commenting on the statement made on behalf of the Hired Carmen respecting haulage to the docks that according to the agreement entered into between the Hired Carmen and the Employers' Association dated 17th December 1948 the rate for carting coal from the docks to the yards of the Limerick Steamship Company is 3s. per ton. The Gas Works were obliged to pay 3s. per ton to the carters for bringing coal from the docks to the yards which were much nearer the point of discharge than the yards of the Limerick Steamship Co. The statement, that the rate to the Gas Works was more per ton for carting coal from the docks was correct.

LIFEBOAT FL

The annual Flag Day of the National Lifeboat