

STORY OF LIMERICK BOY'S DEATH

Tragic Accident At Kilkee

POIGNANTLY SAD EVIDENCE AT INQUEST

A POIGNANTLY sad accident occurred at Kilkee on Monday afternoon resulting in the death of a 13 years old Limerick boy, Master John Dolan. The boy was the only son of Mr. Gerry Dolan, fruit merchant, and Mrs. Dolan, "Athleague," Ashbourne Avenue, Limerick. He was spending his holidays with his parents and friends in a lodge at Marine Parade, Kilkee. It appears that John, with his school pal, Francis O'Donoghue (aged 12), of Limerick, was reading a book in the lawn in front of the lodge, and about 5 o'clock left and went to his room. Some thirty minutes later a boy named Walter O'Donoghue inquired for deceased, and failing to find him went to the room of deceased, where he found him hanging by the cloth belt of his sister's dressing gown, which had been made into a loop and suspended from a clothes hook on the wall. Contrary to earlier reports, however, the cord was not tightened around the deceased's neck. It was just caught under the chin, when the boy put his head into it, and apparently slipped from a chair.

It is understood that the deceased boy was a regular reader of books of the thriller type, and it is believed that reading of some stunt in a book he retired to his room to practise it.

At the time the tragedy took place the father had left Kilkee for Limerick.

Immediately the boy was discovered a number of doctors and

ness went into the house, and some minutes later he heard the deceased, who was not wearing footwear, going to his room. Witness returned to the lawn and stayed reading for about 30 minutes, at which time it started to rain and he retired indoors with his father and Mrs. Rita Dolan, mother of deceased, who had also been sitting out on the lawn.

DISCOVERY IN ROOM.
Shortly after his little brother arrived and inquired for deceased. His brother went to the room of deceased, where he discovered him hanging by the side of the wall.

Mr. Patrick O'Donoghue, father of last witness, said that between 5.30 and 5.45 p.m. his son Walter came in and inquired for deceased. Some minutes later he heard a scream and when he investigated the matter he found deceased hanging from a clothes hook on the bedroom wall with a blue belt from a dressing gown around his neck. The boy had his back to the wall, his mouth was slightly open and his hands were by his side.

MEDICAL EVIDENCE.
Dr. Mary Mullany, of Clancy Strand, Limerick, who is on holidays in Kilkee, stated that she examined the body, which was quite warm. The expression of face was normal, the pupils dilated and there was a mark of strangulation on the front of the neck. Artificial respiration was tried without success. In her opinion death was due to shock.

Dr. E. Lillis Nolan, Kilkee, stated she was called to the house about 6 o'clock and gave an injection, the effect of which was to assist respiration, but it had no effect. She agreed with Dr. Mullany that death was due to shock.

Sergt. Peter A. Carroll, Kilkee, stated he examined the bedroom of deceased and the hook from which he was found hanging was 6ft. 6ins. from the ground. A chair in the room was 1 ft. 5 ins. from the bed and the distance from the hook to the seat of the chair was 5 ft. There was nothing disturbed in the room. The chair was practically under the hook from which the body was found hanging and the boy, who was barefooted, could have slipped off the chair if he was trying any stunts.

THE VERDICT.
Mr. Joseph Coleman, foreman of the jury, said that the boy, who was fond of reading, was probably trying out some trick he had read in a book and while doing so slipped from the chair.

The jury returned a verdict of accidental death due to shock, following hanging.

Supt. James Dawson, on behalf of the Gardal, tendered sympathy to the parents of the boy, and the Coroner, Dr. Hillery, and the members of the jury associated themselves with it.

DEEP SORROW AND SYMPATHY.
The deepest and most widespread sorrow was caused in Limerick by Master Dolan's death, and the most sincere sympathy, in which we fully join, has been tendered to the highly respected parents and relatives on their bitterly sad bereavement. The remains of the deceased were brought to Limerick on Tuesday from Kilkee by motor hearse. The cortege, as it neared the city, included 72 motor cars, and thousands of people crowded the footpaths to show their sympathy with, and respect for, the bereaved family and friends.

Solemn Requiem Mass was offered up in St. Michael's Church at 10.30 on Wednesday, and the funeral took place to Mount St. Lawrence Cemetery at 11.30 o'clock. The cortege was one of the largest and most representative seen in Limerick for a long time. It was an



The late Master Jack Dolan

priests were called and artificial respiration was tried for some time, but without result.

THE INQUEST.

At the inquest on Tuesday, held by Dr. Hillery, Coroner for West Clare, a jury returned a verdict of accidental death due to shock following hanging.

Mr. Gerry Dolan, the boy's father, in evidence, said that his son never suffered from any illness, was very active and played all games. He was a very cautious boy and he never heard of him taking part in any stunts. He liked reading very much.

Francis O'Donoghue (aged 12), of Doherty's Villa, Farranshone, Limerick, stated that he was a school pal of deceased and they were both on holidays in Kilkee and staying in the one house. Deceased played football and other games, and was also a good swimmer.

Following lunch until 5 o'clock they both sat on the lawn outside the house reading. At the time wit-

IRISH RED CROSS

Recent Fund Campaign

APPRECIATION OF HELP

(To the Editor, "Limerick Leader.")

DEAR SIR—At the half-yearly meeting of the Central Council of the Irish Red Cross Society, the members of the Council unanimously expressed their appreciation of the valuable help given by your paper during the recent Fund Campaign. The publicity given by you to the drive, and to the various public utterances made on its behalf by prominent persons, was of very great assistance indeed, and I should like you to accept this expression of the Council's thanks for your assistance.

Perhaps you would be kind enough also to publish the Council's deep appreciation of the generous help given by our County Committees and Branches throughout the country, and more especially the collectors who carried out the difficult task assigned to them so thoroughly and painstakingly. The Council would particularly like to express its deep gratitude to the subscribing public who by their generosity have made the campaign a success.

The meeting decided that in order to maintain the interest of the public in Red Cross matters throughout the country and to advance further the good work being done by the Society to appoint officers who would be charged with the responsibility of making local contacts and in maintaining the interest of the public in the health programme of the Society, and in the maintenance of a Branch and Unit organisation. It is hoped that when such officers are appointed there will be a considerable reawakening of interest in the Red Cross.

The Council noted with regret that 100 Viennese children invited by the Society to the Red Cross Home in Glencree cannot avail of the offer made by the Irish Red Cross to house and maintain them for a period of three months.

The date of currency of the annual membership subscription has been changed from the 31st of March each year to the 30th of September.

At a meeting of the Executive Committee, held subsequent to the Central Council meeting, it was agreed to send a team of First Aiders from the Irish Red Cross to Amsterdam to take part in an International First Aid Contest on the 3rd September on the occasion of the 40th anniversary of the establishment of the Red Cross Corps in the capital of the Netherlands. It is recognised that the contest will afford an excellent opportunity for strengthening the ties between the national societies competing and will give the opportunity to our team to study the practices of other First Aid groups in the field of First Aid and transport of wounded, etc. Among the other societies invited are those of the following nations: America, Belgium, Canada, Denmark, France, Great Britain, Luxembourg, Norway, Sweden, Switzerland.

The Executive Committee appointed various Sub-Committees to deal with different aspects of the Society's work, including:—Junior Red Cross Committee, National Trophy Competitions Committee, Anti-Tuberculosis Committee, Finance

eloquent testimony of the respect and popularity enjoyed by the bereaved parents and other relatives, and of genuine sympathy with them in their severe tribulation.

FELLOW PUPILS' TRIBUTE.

The deceased was a pupil of the Sacred Heart College, Limerick, and his fellow students marched in a body at the funeral.

The coffin was covered with a huge profusion of wreaths and natural flowers.

Master Dolan was a very loveable boy, and was a particular favourite, not alone with his "pals," but with all who knew him. A very brilliant student, he got honours in all subjects at recent examinations.

TOWN BY-PASSED

As Result Of Traffic Regulations

GARDA EXPLANATION

THE Ennis Urban Council, at its ordinary monthly meeting, complained that, on the occasion of the recent races at Galway, motor traffic had been detoured around Ennis, and that the town had thus been by-passed, and business injured. They ascribe this to the traffic regulations enforced by the Garda Siochana, and to the effect of big signposts erected at either end of the town to indicate a detour by which travellers to Galway or Limerick could reach their destination without going through the narrow streets of Ennis.

One Councillor alleged that, as a result of this "detour," Ennis hotels had not a dozen callers for tea, whereas on Galway race days in previous years, they had to cater for hundreds. In order that the position might be explained, they invited Chief Supt. J. J. Kelleher to attend a special meeting held on Tuesday night.

GARDA EXPLANATION.

Supt. J. S. Flynn, representing the Chief Supt., said the Garda had no responsibility for the signposts, and knew nothing whatsoever about any diversion of traffic. So far as they were concerned all travellers could please themselves as to the road they took on reaching Ennis. The traffic regulations affecting Ennis Urban District had been adopted some years ago by the Council themselves, and the Garda always interpreted them in the most generous manner consistent with the avoidance of street obstruction.

The Co. Manager said the direction signs for Limerick and Galway, erected at the approaches to Ennis for the convenience of travellers, had been in use since 1947, and this was the first occasion on which it had been alleged they were detrimental to Ennis trade. They had been erected by the Co. Engineer, acting for the Co. Council.

NOTHING TO SHOW TOWN WAS ENNIS.

Mr. M. J. Carmody, retiring Town Clerk, said that, with all the signposts they had, there was not a single one to indicate to travellers that the town was "Ennis," and that they were approaching it or arriving at it.

The Council thanked Supt. Flynn for his explanation, and requested the Co. Manager to confer with the Co. Engineer as to the most suitable road signs to be erected in Ennis and neighbourhood.

Emergency Hospitals Supply Committee, Water Safety Committee, Foreign Relief Committee.

I should be much obliged if you could give the foregoing due publicity in your paper.—Yours sincerely,

M. McNAMARA,
Secretary,
Irish Red Cross Society,
Headquarters, Dublin.

MOTOR OFFENCES

Not Proper Duty

CARRIAGE OF CALVES

JUSTICE GORDON HURLEY, B.L., adjudicated at the Limerick Liberties Court on Wednesday in the absence of Justice D. F. Gleeson, who is on holidays.

Michael Haney, River St., Offaly, was prosecuted for using a small public service vehicle at Coolriery, Castleconnell, on the 21st March, while not having the proper rate of duty in force.

NINE CALVES IN VEHICLE.

Guard O'Sullivan said that on the 21st March he was on duty on the main Dublin road when he held up the defendant, who was driving to Offaly. The vehicle was a small public service vehicle and there were nine young calves in it as the back seat had been removed. The tax of £1 12s, which was in force, was a monthly one in respect of a small P.S.V., whereas the full tax for private purposes would be £2 16s.

Mr. D. J. O'Malley, solr., for the defendant, said that the defendant was not aware that he was committing an offence. He bought the calves at Abbeyfeale fair and took out the back seat and put the calves into it. Everything had since been put in order.

The Justice imposed a mitigated penalty of £3.

SECOND PROSECUTION.

Patrick Merrigan, Clonmacnoise, Athlone, was similarly prosecuted.

Guard Kingston said that on the 12th May he was on duty on the Dublin road at Coolriery, Castleconnell, when he held up the defendant, who was driving a small public service vehicle. There was a £10 tax for the year on the vehicle, and he was carrying three calves. The back seat and the seat beside the driving seat were removed. The defendant was on his way home at the time, and he said he thought he could use the vehicle "for his own use." The full private rate of tax on the vehicle would be £15.

Superintendent—There is a difference of £5 between the two rates and the defendant is liable to a penalty of £20.

FINED £4.

The defendant, in evidence, said he admitted the charge. He did not know it was an offence.

Justice—I will impose a penalty of £4 in this case.

RECOGNITION RESTORED.

Mr. McGilligan, Minister for Finance, has restored recognition of the Civil Service Clerical Association after long negotiations.

Recognition had been withdrawn by the Minister in May because of the publication of certain comments in the "Civil Servant," journal of the Association.

TRAIN FULL OF PIGEONS

A special train left Belfast on Friday night with 25,000 racing pigeons. The birds, enclosed in 12,000 hampers, occupied 40 wagons. They were being taken to Arklow to be released there to race back to Belfast.

SLUM PRO

Position in

QUESTION OF DIFF

RENTS

THE Ennis Urban Council have to look Aid," declared Court Linnane at a special m body held on Tuesday

Mr. Linnane said only hope if they did more liberal grants housing schemes. But 500 new houses were their slum problem solved. But the first 96 houses now under costing £1,400 each. Manager had given them stand that if those w a week, plus rates, th an annual loss of £2,500 represent over 4/- in addition to the prese rate of 31/- and wou possible burden for th

DIFFERENTIAL

The Manager (Mr said the houses now approaching completio del for the poorest fe worst housing conditi Council set the rent i possible figure in the ing their needs. But, ance of 43 houses, no the consulting archit paring a modified plan include a certain nu expensive houses and that the system of rents now working s other places should There would be an i the incomes of the fa mended for the tenan rents would be fixed a

The Council unanim that, as soon as fan condemned dwellings as tenants of new h should be served on of the condemned dw if those were not pu occupation within th period, steps would t the issue of a Demol

WHEN THE ORDER

Once that order is landlord permitting th tion of a condemned d be liable on conviction £20, with a further £5 offence continued.

Premises in Market as the Labour Hall, w property of the Urban are now occupied by should, in the opinion M.O.H., be "razed to as soon as the preser who pay no rent, are ted in new houses.

THE GUINNESS I

The late Hon. Arthur Glenmaroon, Dublin, V of Arthur Guinness, Ltd., left estate in En at £156,726. The am estate in Ireland was at £3,187,427, of whi £1,325,775 was paid.

A
powder

NOW 6d

OUTDOOR GIRL
Olive Oil

SWEET

£25,000

IF I WON