

WORKMAN'S DEATH

Accident In City Mill

ENGINE THAT MOVED

Evidence At Inquest

A Coroner's jury at Barrington's Hospital, Limerick, to-day investigated the death of a 64 years old mill worker, who died on Saturday as the result of injuries sustained while working near an engine at the mill of Messrs. Ranks (Ireland), Ltd., on March 27th.

Mr. J. S. McNeice, Deputy City Coroner, sitting with a jury, held an inquest touching the death of Thomas Hanley, 2 Rosemary Place, Limerick.

Mr. P. G. Collins, solicitor, attended on behalf of Messrs. Ranks (Ireland), Ltd., and Miss J. H. Dowling, Industrial Inspector, was also present.

Inspector Halvey conducted the enquiry.

HEARD DECEASED CALLING.

John Connors, 13 Punche's Lane, said he was employed at the City Roller Mills as an engine driver. The deceased was also employed there as an engine-room cleaner. On the morning of the 27th March, at about 7.55, witness was repairing a defective pulley which was on a shaft across the top of an engine. He heard the deceased calling his name, "Jack." He looked down and saw the engine moving. He then came down and shut off the throttle valve. He went back to where Hanley was and found him on the floor on his hands and knees. He asked deceased what happened him, and he told him that when the engine was going down it struck him. He then brought deceased out on the landing, and he was subsequently removed to Barrington's Hospital.

LIABLE TO MOVE.

Coroner—Can you say what struck the deceased?—No; but one of his duties was to remove the oil from the trays under the engine. It is usual for the engine to be stationery while this work is being done, but if the engine got overheated it is liable to move of its own accord. This, however, would be a very slow movement.

Mr. Collins—Did you open the exhaust valves in the cylinders while the engine was being heated?—Yes.

Mr. Collins—What is the reason for doing that?—To prevent any accumulation of steam or water in the cylinders.

A SAFETY DEVICE.

The witness added that the opening of the valves was a safety device for preventing the engine from moving or heat-

ing up, and was the procedure at all times.

Replying to Inspector Halvey, the witness said that when he reached the throttle valve the engine had stopped, but by that time it had completed one-half a revolution. If the crank had stopped in the lowest position the engine would never have moved.

TOOK ALL PRECAUTIONS.

Mr. Collins—Did you take all the usual precautions on this morning?—Yes. It was impossible for any cleaning or oiling to be done while the engine was in motion. The heating up process is stopped every Monday morning at 8 o'clock for an inspection of the engine, and after the inspection the "all clear" warning is sounded before the steam is turned on.

The witness gave it as his opinion that the deceased man started to work before his time, and said that if he had seen him he would not have allowed him to do so.

RIBS CRUSHED.

Dr. S. McDonagh, Barrington's Hospital stated that the deceased had only slight external injuries. His right side had been crushed and a number of ribs were broken. The right lung was punctured, and death was due to bronchial pneumonia and cardiac failure following these injuries.

Mrs. Nora Hanley, wife of the deceased, said her husband left home for work on the day of the accident at 7.30 a.m. Later that day she received word that he had been injured, but when she called to the hospital she was unable to see him. On March 30th she again went to the hospital and saw her husband for an hour. He complained that he had been badly hurt. When she asked him how the accident occurred he mentioned something about a crank. Her husband was 64 years of age and had been employed at the mill for the past 43 years.

THE VERDICT.

The jury returned a verdict in accordance with the medical testimony.

The Coroner and jury expressed sympathy with the widow and relatives of the deceased, in which Mr. Collins and Inspector Halvey joined.

Mr. Mercier, of Messrs. Ranks (Ireland), Ltd., said the deceased man was a loyal and trusted worker and the firm deeply deplored the accident had caused his death.

INTER-DEBATE

Ennis and Limerick

Interesting Function

The Ennis Debating Society fulfilled a long-standing engagement at the Technical Institute last night, when an interesting inter-debate with the Limerick Literary and Economics Society was held.

The motion moved by the visitors, that "Censorship in any form is abhorrent," was carried by 16 votes to 13.

The discussion was remarkable for the variety and novelty of the arguments put forward by both sides, and for the many ingenious replies to telling points.

A large audience thoroughly enjoyed the debate and the speakers were heartily congratulated on the manner in which they conducted the proceedings and countered the arguments.

THE SPEAKERS.

The speakers were—Ennis—Dr. Counihan, Messrs. J. Foley, T. McInerney, and E. Fox. Limerick—Messrs. J. E. Walsh, D. Adams, J. Kiely and G. O'Brien.

At the conclusion Mr. J. O'Donnell, B.Com., on behalf of the Limerick Society, expressed great pleasure at the visit of the Ennis team, and congratulated them on winning.

Mr. A. J. Eakins seconded, and said that both sides had given the audience a delightful oratorical treat.

PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS.

Conveying the vote of thanks, Mr. P. J. Donnellan, B.C. Chairman, said that he considered the debate had reached a very high standard, and was certainly one of the most enjoyable he had listened to since he became President of the Society. The 1938-9 session had just concluded, and, speaking on a personal note, he wished to say that the success achieved by the Limerick Society during the year had been absolutely wonderful. Up to last year the membership had been very small, and the officials and members had an uphill struggle to place the Society on a sure foundation. At the beginning of the season just ended the membership had increased to an unprecedented extent and they could now claim that the Limerick Literary and Economics Society had come to stay. This was his last year as President and he could say that his work had been made very pleasant by the loyal help and co-operation of all the officials and members. He had no doubt that next year the present membership would be doubled.

LIMERICK'S PROGRESS.

Replying, Dr. Counihan said that the Ennis Society were deeply appreciative of the warm and friendly reception they had been given in Limerick. They knew of the activities of the Limerick Society for some years and had nothing but admiration for the members who worked so hard to achieve success. Ennis people regarded Limerick as their capital city and in his frequent visits to the city he was always impressed by the air of prosperity and progress everywhere apparent. The people were active and enthusiastic in all things, and it was only

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