

30 YEARS AGO

FERENKA DEVELOPMENT

THERE was a dramatic development in the Ferenka dispute this morning, when a spokesman for a group of the striking production workers said that they wanted to see Alderman Mick Lipper, TD, to help them work out a formula for a return to work.

Ald Lipper said he had met some of the men and added that he was anxious to see a break soon in the dispute. He pointed out that it was the families and the men who were his main concern.

However, the spokesman, Mr Paddy Tobin, alleged that the men were being stopped from taking this course of action.

"We made a suggestion to one of the strike committee which could get the men back to work immediately but we are now being dictated to by Dublin.

"We want to go back to work

and provide for our families." Mr Tobin went on. "We have been bluffed for too long and now it seems that the Marine Port and General Workers' Union is more interested in creating jobs for the boys (their own boys).

"The suggestions that are being made are: We would like Ald Lipper to call on management to remove the suspensions and let the men return to work. That the men will then agree to a period of three months as a cooling off period, during which they can debate and consider the position of a change of union or otherwise.

"However, in the meantime the men could be back at work and their families are being provided for.

"In this way the responsibility is being placed on management by asking them to remove the suspensions and they will have to accept the condemnation of the country if they refuse.