

LOSS IN WHEAT**Threshing Delay
Blamed****APPEAL AGAINST DECREE**

At the Limerick Circuit Court, on Friday of last week, before Judge Barra O Briain, S.C.,

Jeremiah Flynn, Bohernagore, Kilmallock, appealed against the decision of the District Justice in giving a decree to Dr. Thomas Quane, Bruree, for £10 16s. 6d., with £2 expenses, on foot of a £25 claim for breach of contract in respect of the threshing of corn.

Mr. Sean Kenny, B.L. (instructed by Mr. J. T. Liston, solr.), appeared for Flynn; while the respondent was represented by Mr. Barry Walsh, B.L. (instructed by Mr. R. Geary, solr.).

Dr. Thomas Quane, the respondent, said that in the harvest of 1945 he had a quantity of corn in his farm at Tullyleak which he wanted to get threshed and he interviewed a man named Meskill, Flynn's agent, to thresh the corn. Meskill told him to have everything ready on the following Sunday. Witness specially collected 22 men and had the corn put together in preparation for the threshing. Meskill did not turn up and witness later met the appellant, Flynn, and told him of this. Flynn said he'd leave a message at a cottage near witness's house as to when he'd be able to do the threshing. The message arrived, stating that the work would be done next day. Flynn did not turn up on that day, although witness had seven men collected.

HELPERS PAID AND FED.

On the previous day witness paid eighteen of the 22 men a total of £5 10s. plus food and refreshment, which brought his expenses up to nearly £11. On the second day the seven men employed cost him £3 5s. The wheat was put together to wait the thresher, and, being damp, it heated and was damaged. On this account the wheat was worth £14 14s. less than if it had been threshed on the first occasion for which he had made arrangements with Flynn's agent, Meskill. Cross-examined by Mr. Kenny, witness said he first decided to bring the present claim after he had received a civil bill from Flynn for £30, his charge for the threshing, which was not paid by witness, so meant to offset the amount of his present claim against Flynn's charge for the threshing. In the District Court, Flynn got a decree of £20 in the civil bill against witness.

Daniel Meskill said he was employed as a driver of a threshing machine by Jeremiah Flynn in 1945. He recalled that on one Friday Dr. Quane called on him and witness told him he'd be with him if he could on the next Sunday to thresh his corn. He did not go to Dr. Quane on the Sunday because witness was working elsewhere.

WITNESS REFUSES TO ATTEND.

At this stage the further hearing of the appeal was adjourned until the following (Saturday) morning, and when the Court resumed it was stated that the last witness, Daniel Meskill, refused to come into Court at all.

Mr. Kenny said it was his intention to cross-examine Meskill, and in view of his absence he would have to ask for costs of the day. His Lordship allowed costs and adjourned the further hearing of the case to the Michaelmas Sittings, and if Meskill refused to attend the Court, he (Judge) would have to take action on his own.

THE RECENT STORM**EFFECTS IN EAST LIMERICK**

Many trees were uprooted in various parts of the district during a fierce storm which swept the county on Wednesday of last week (writes our Pallas correspondent). Slates were blown off houses in the villages of Old Pallas and Ballynaker, and part of the roof of the National School at Killeety, Pallasgreen, was blown away. Roofs of cow sheds and the roof of a hayrack, the property of Mr. Patrick Bloy, Old Bridge, were blown away.

While turning in his cows during the storm, Mr. David Guerin, Ballynaker, Pallasgreen, was struck by a door blown down by the

FATAL ACCIDENT**Result Of Second
Trial****ACCUSED FOUND NOT
GUILTY**

William A. Lynch (24), c/o Ardhu House Hotel, an American citizen (whose parents, it was stated in evidence, were Irish) employed by Pan-American Airways, Shannon Airport, who was charged with the manslaughter of Patrick Considine (22), Coonagh, by knocking him down with a motor van on the Ennis Road, Limerick, on the night of the 18th January, was before Mr. Justice Davitt, sitting with a jury, in the Central Criminal Court, yesterday, found not guilty, and discharged.

The trial had lasted two days. It was actually a re-trial, as the jury at the Limerick Circuit Criminal Court disagreed on the occasion of the first trial, and the accused's counsel then made application to Judge Barra O Briain to have the case transferred to the Central Criminal Court.

Mr. R. J. McLoughlin, S.C., who, with Mr. T. Donovan, B.L. (instructed by the Chief State Solicitor), prosecuted, while Mr. W. O.B. Fitzgerald, S.C. (instructed by Mr. D. G. O'Donovan, solicitor) was for the accused.

Lynch, whose direct evidence concluded on Monday, was yesterday cross-examined by Mr. R. McLoughlin.

HAD BEEN DRIVING SEVERAL TYPES OF CARS.

He agreed he had been driving several types of cars for seven or eight years. On the night in question he was returning to his hotel for the night and was to be on duty at seven o'clock next morning. He did not drive at high speeds. The 32 horse power utility van, or station wagon, he was driving was capable of travelling at 70 miles per hour, but at no time had he driven at such a speed.

He was familiar with the Ennis Road and expected to meet cyclists and pedestrians. The car was not going from one side to the other side of the road. A bus approached and the driver and he dimmed their lights. After he passed the bus he did not recollect if there was other traffic on the road. The cyclists were so close that he could not avoid them. "I wasn't able to avoid them, but I tried to do so to the best of my ability," he said.

Mr. McLoughlin—In the circumstances is it not clear that you were driving "blind" for a distance?—I would not say "blind."

Mr. McLoughlin—In such a way and at such a speed that you could not avoid the figures?—I do not know what you mean by "at such a speed."

Mr. McLoughlin—At such a speed that when you saw an obstacle on the road you were unable to pull up?—I was not able to stop when I first saw them.

"ONLY A GLIMPSE."

Witness said that when he first saw the figures on the road it was only a glimpse. He applied his brakes and swerved to the left and started to skid. He released the brakes then to check the skid and applied the brakes again.

He did not agree that after the van struck the wall he was unable to stop because of the high speed at which the van was travelling.

In reply to his Lordship, witness said that his previous driving experience was with left-hand drive cars.

Mr. Justice Davitt—Had that anything to do with the accident?—No.

In further reply to his Lordship, Lynch said that it would be more satisfactory to drive on the Ennis Road with the headlights on, but one would have to have regard for other vehicles. The reason he tried to pass on the left-hand side was because at the moment he thought it was the best thing to do.

This concluded the evidence for the defence and Mr. W. O.B. Fitzgerald, S.C., then addressed the jury.

JUDGE'S SUMMING UP.

Mr. Justice Davitt, summing up, said that the jury should give the fullest consideration to the fact that it might be that the defendant did not expect to find two cyclists wheeling their bicycles without lights, almost on the middle of the road.

The jury, as stated, found the accused not guilty.

CRISIS PASSED**Good News For Gas
Consumers****PROSPECTS OF IMPROVED
SERVICE**

The crisis at the Limerick Gas Works, caused by an acute shortage of coking coal, has been overcome.

Following a conference held in Dublin on Monday in the offices of the Department of Industry and Commerce arrangements were come to whereby the Limerick Gas Works will get its allocation of 508 tons of coal per month. It is expected that a quantity of this will be of good quality American coking-coal.

The Gas Engineer, Mr. F. K. Thomas, went to Dublin this morning for the purpose of seeing that coal was dispatched to Limerick with all possible speed.

During the past two days a considerable quantity of coke has been delivered at the Works from Cork. A further consignment of twenty tons is due to arrive this evening. These supplies, together with the American coal, if obtained, and which has a large coking content, will ensure that the temperature in the retorts can be maintained at the standard needed to produce gas.

MUCH IMPROVED SERVICE.

The City Manager (Mr. M. Macken, B.A.) told a *Limerick Leader* reporter to-day that consumers could look forward to an improved service. It would not be possible, he said, to improve the quality of the gas all at once as sixty per cent. of the generating plant had gone out of commission for want of coke. When all the retorts had been heated up production, having regard to rationing conditions, would be more or less normal. Much would depend, too, on the quality of the coal.

"MOST HELPFUL"

Mr. Macken added that the crisis had passed. At one time a complete close down was imminent. The officials of the Department of Industry and Commerce, he concluded, were most helpful and sympathetic.

The Corporation was represented at the conference by the Mayor (Mr. J. C. Hickey), Ald. D. Bourke, T.D.; Ald. J. Reidy, T.D.; the City Manager and Mr. F. K. Thomas, Gas Engineer.

Mr. M. J. Keyes, T.D., was unable to attend owing to a pressing prior engagement.

BACON SUPPLY**SHOCK FOR WHOLESALE
MERCHANTS**

The wholesale bacon merchants of Limerick received a shock to-day when they were notified by Messrs. Henry Denny & Sons, Waterford, and Clover Meats, Ltd., Waterford, that, as from to-morrow, wholesale orders would not be accepted by these two bacon-curing firms. This action has been taken, it is stated, because the price fixed for bacon for the wholesale trade by the Prices Commission is altogether uneconomic.

The curers state that if they were to continue to supply bacon at the price fixed they would do so at a loss of 40/- per cwt.

A Limerick wholesale trader told a *Limerick Leader* reporter that his firm, in consequence of the action of the two curing firms referred to, would be unable to supply bacon to retailers over a large part of Munster.

From further inquiries made it was ascertained that the curers will continue to supply the retailers, as the price fixed by the Prices Commission for this trade is considerably higher than that applicable to the wholesale trade.

Numerous retailers in country towns who were depending on the wholesalers for bacon supplies will be severely hit by the new development.

NIGHT LIGHTING**FOR LIMERICK UNION****CROSS****PRICES****Beef Cattle****THE DUBLIN****MARKET**

A serious meat shortage is feared by victuallers in Dublin, correspondent.

There was an unusual dearth of beef animals at the Market to-day. It was less than an hour at advanced values.

Vicuallers were to be discussing the prospect to close down for at least each week, as they found it impossible to get meat at provincial centres.

When the cattle market this morning the Dubliners were surprised to find they had been forestalled by country centres who had Dublin to replenish their stocks.

The consensus of opinion there is at present a shortage of beef animals in the country. This shortage is felt to a scarcity of feeding; the course of a month or so.

At to-day's market heifer beef realised 104 on foot. The top price was 95/-. Fat bullocks at 100/- per cwt. on foot, of 10/- as compared with ago.

NEW 'BUS F**OPERATE TO-MO**

As from to-morrow, C.I.E. will operate the fares on buses operating out the country.

In Limerick City the penny fare, which was last July, is to be restored. The new fares will be: Street to Ballinacurra, fare, 1d.; William Street Avenue, 1½d. (old fare, 1d.); Avenue to Ballinacurra, change); William Street boro', 1½d. (old fare, 1d.); Street to Killeely, 1½d. (old fare, 1d.); Janesboro' to Killeely, change); Rosbrien to W 1½d. (old fare, 1d.); Will to Wolfe Tone Street, change); Railway Station brien, 1d. (no change).

It is the consensus of opinion that the re-introduction of fare will cause much income to the public and to the ductors.

STRIKE OF DOC**POSITION AT LOND****GLASGOW**

A message from London this afternoon, states that the men of the strike of dockers in London and Glasgow is at hand. It is believed that will resume work to-morrow.

To-day over 1,000 of the dockers at London returned to work. Union leaders say that they are disposed to go back pending examination of their grievances.

BEAUTY SPOTS OFF**TRACK**

Interesting reviews, personal and historical tales of the non, particularly of Co. Wick and North Roscommon, contained in the book by M. Sheerin, entitled "Pictures of Limerick-on-Shannon, the Gateway to the West and Donegal Hills" published by Messrs. Brown Nolan, Dublin.

The book, first published in 1938, gives a considerable amount of information on the district, and the intention of the author being to provide a complete guide to the tourist in the country surrounding Shannon's source where