

BALLINA ROMANCE

Germans And Chinese

Tales of the Circus

A Chinese interpreter—Borris Lid Hoc Tsehn—figured as a witness at the District Court in Ballina on Tuesday when Supt. Kilroy charged Harry Hensly of Heckenberg's Circus, with the alleged abduction of Laura Neumair, aged 13 years, without the consent of her parents. The accused, for whom Mr. Huggard appeared, came up on remand.

Supt. Kilroy examined Borris Lid Hoc Tsehn, who said he was a native of China and could speak the German and English language fluently. Supt. Kilroy told the Court that the witnesses in the case were Germans and could not well understand English. The interpreter was also a member of the circus troupe.

On being sworn, Lid Hoc Tsehn said he was a Catholic and would take the oath in the ordinary way. Bernhard Neumair, sworn, deposed:—I am a citizen of Aulughagh, German. I came to Ireland with my wife Laura and daughter Laura on the 26th of March last. My daughter Laura was born at Hamburg on the 27th February, 1924. I have a certificate of birth (produced) of the Hamburg Registration officers.

Mr. Huggard objected on the grounds that it did not identify the person mentioned in it. It did not give the name of the person who gave the information. Supt.—You have the evidence of the parents which is even better than the certificate.

Continuing, the witness said he was employed by Heckenberg's circus since he came to Ireland. On the 20th October, 1937, they came to Ballina with the circus. The defendant was also employed by the circus, and he also visited Ballina on that date. For the 6 months they had been with the circus Harry Hensly and all of them had been on friendly terms.

Harry Hensly often came into his wagon perhaps twice weekly, and told him that he was just on speaking terms with his daughter. He spoke to witness and his wife and said there was nothing between him and his daughter except that they were on friendly terms. His daughter never went out walking alone with Harry Hensly, but they often met in the towns visited by the circus shopping with other members of the circus. On the 20th of October his daughter left him. He sent her out for groceries to a local shop and she did not return. A few moments later then little Johnny Faussett told him that Harry Hensly had left the circus. He did not think at that time that Hensly had left the circus. His wife then searched the town and could not find her.

He was about to get ready for his performance when he missed his daughter's clothes from the trunk. He then suspected that Harry Hensley had taken away his daughter and he obtained a warrant for his arrest. On the morning of the 21st October he accompanied Sgt. Lynch to Blacklion (Co. Cavan) Garda station and there saw his daughter and the accused. He took his daughter and the accused was taken to Ballina by the Sergt. He asked his daughter why she went away and she said she thought she was doing her parents good by going away. She was learning to be an acrobat by lessons from him, but did not like it, and did not want to learn it and that she thought she would go away and try something else on her own. She said she did not like the training she was getting by her people, to become an acrobat. She did not mention anything about getting married to Harry Hensly, but that she wanted to open up a show with Harry Hensly on their own. He did not know how his daughter took her clothes, but thought she handed them out to Harry Hensly, but on the 21st of October he was handed his daughter's clothes by Harry Hensly.

Supt.—Did Harry Hensly ever get your permission or authority to take your daughter away? Witness—No. Mr. Huggard did not cross-examine Mrs. Laura Neumair, wife of the last witness, said she was a German citizen. Her daughter went out for groceries shortly after the circus visited Ballina and as she did not return her husband sent her to look for her, but she failed to find her. Prior to her disappearance her daughter did not tell her where she intended going. She did not get permission from witness to go away. She learned at the same time that Harry Hensly had left the Circus. On the day before her daughter left the circus she had to slap her daughter for standing near Harry Hensly and talking to him.

Supt.—Were they embracing or fondling at the time? Witness—I never saw them embrace each other, but I slapped my daughter because I noticed that on several occasions they were too friendly. Continuing, the witness said that her daughter never went for a walk with the accused. Mr. Huggard did not cross-examine.

Laura Neumair, the girl in the case, gave evidence that she was the daughter of the previous witnesses and was born on the 27th February, 1924, at Hamburg. On the 19th October she was talking to Harry Hensly about going away. He said to her that if she went away with him they would open up a show of their own. They arranged to leave Ballina on the 20th October by Enniskillen to Belfast. On that day she parcelled some clothes and handed them to Harry Hensly. They walked half the way to Enniscrone and they then got a seat in a private car to Enniscrone. They next got a seat to Sligo from Enniscrone and took a bus to Enniskillen, but they were stopped by Guards at Blacklion. She was on friendly terms with the accused with the knowledge of her father and mother.

Supt.—Did he tell you he was in love with you? Witness—Yes. Supt.—Was there any mention of marriage at Enniskillen or at any time? Witness—No. Supt.—You had not the permission of your father or mother to go away? Witness—No. Supt.—Would you have left Ballina on your own if Harry Hensly had not asked you? Witness—No.

Mr. Huggard did not cross-examine. Sergt. Lynch identified a deposition already made. He added that while escorting the accused from Ballina to Foxford Court, after putting the question to him where he intended getting married, he stated he intended getting married in Enniskillen. Prior to taking him over in charge at Blacklion, the accused told him in reply to a question that he intended getting married in Enniskillen. This concluded the evidence and the Supt. asked that the accused be returned for trial.

Mr. Huggard said that he could not oppose the application but asked that the accused be allowed out on bail. It was hardly likely that there would be a conviction. Justice—On the other hand it might be a good thing if he was in jail up to the time of the trial. Mr. Huggard—I quite see that. The accused was then remanded in custody.

YOUNG GIRL MISSING

Where is Mary Kerins?

Where is 15 year old Mary Kerins from Mail Coach Road, Sligo? That's what her father and relatives want to know; it is what the Gardai want to know; and now, since her description was broadcast from Radio Athlone on Wednesday night last, it is what everybody wants to know. But of course, up to the time of writing nobody knows, as she has been missing since early last month. It was on Wednesday, 28th September, that she left her home, where she had resided with her father, a dock labourer, Andrew Kerins, her mother being dead. She travelled by train to Dublin and on her arrival there was taken into custody by the metropolitan police. She was conveyed to College Green Station, and her father was communicated with; as she could not be detained by the police any longer than 24 hours. It is understood that no action was taken by the parent for some days and in the meantime Mary had been placed in a home in Dublin. She escaped from there, and immediately inquiries were instituted with a view to discovering her whereabouts. In spite of the fact that every effort has been made in this direction, so far they have not met with success. Gardai throughout the whole of the country have been supplied with copies of the girl's description and have been requested to co-operate in the strenuous investigations being pursued to locate the missing girl. The description as broadcast in the S.O.S. message stated that she was five feet in height, of medium build, with straight black hair bobbed at the back. She has large eyes and dark complexion. When last seen she was wearing a green knitted skirt, a blue nap coat with half belt at the back, and a pair of black shoes. She was not wearing any head-dress.

DEATH OF MRS. ELIZABETH LEWIS, CHARLES ST., BALLINA.

With profound sorrow and regret we chronicle the death of Mrs. Elizabeth Lewis, wife of Mr. Wm. Lewis, a valued member of the staff of the "Ballina Herald," which occurred early on Monday morning following a heart attack. The deceased retired on Sunday night in the best of health, but about 3 o'clock, a.m. she complained of being unwell, and the services of Dr. Keane were at once requisitioned but without avail, and she passed peacefully away to the grief and sorrow of her leaving husband and members of the household. The news of her passing was received in town on Monday morning with surprise and regret, and this was testified to by the many callers to the house shortly afterwards. The late Mrs. Lewis, who was a member of the Armstrong family of Knockbrindane, was a truly Christian and industrious woman, a kindly neighbour, a loving mother and universally liked and respected by all classes of the community. We join with the general public in tendering to her grief stricken husband and the members of the family an expression of our sincere sympathy in the great loss they have suffered, and they will certainly be consoled by the fact that they have the sympathy of town and country in their bereavement. The remains were removed to St. Michael's Parish Church, Ardarae, on Tuesday afternoon, being accompanied by a large concourse of people and were received by the Rector, Rev. C. J. A. Harris, when a short Service was held. On Wednesday, following a Service in the Church during which appropriate hymns were rendered by the choir, the funeral took place to the adjoining Cemetery when the Service was conducted by the Rector in the presence of a large number of sympathisers. The family mourners were Mr. Wm. Lewis (husband); Mr. Harold Lewis (son); Mrs. Barnes, Mrs. Hurley and Miss Ruth Lewis (daughters); Mr. Thos. Hurley (son-in-law); Mrs. Sam Lewis, Galway (sister-in-law); Miss Anna McKenzie, Ennis, and Mr. Robert Stenson, Knockbrindane (cousins). Beautiful floral tributes were laid on the grave as follows:—"In affectionate remembrance," from Daddy, Eileen, Ruth and Harold; "In loving memory," from May, Tommy, and children; "In loving memory of a very dear friend," from Mr. and Mrs. G. Quill; "In deepest sympathy," from G.S.R. Omnibus Staff, Ballina Depot; "In kind remembrance and with sincere sympathy," from Dr. and Mrs. E. H. Williamson; "With love and deepest sympathy," from all at Woodbine; "In affectionate remembrance," from the Chapman family; "In affectionate remembrance," from all at Palmyra; "With sincere sympathy," from Violet Beckett. The funeral arrangements were excellently carried out by Messrs. Hewson, Undertakers, Ballina.

Acknowledgment.

Mr. Lewis and members of the family take this opportunity of returning sincere thanks for all the kind messages of sympathy which they have received and which will be gratefully acknowledged later.

NORTH MAYO FOOTBALL

The League Table.

The Secretary read the league table at the G.A.A. meeting in Ballina on Sunday night to date, as follows:—

Table with 5 columns: Club, P, W, L, D, Pts. Rows include Killala, Boninacloen, Lasken, Ballina, Ballycastle, Crossmolina, Moygownagh, and Ardarae.

Ballina Prize Winners.

Mr. E. A. Corr, solr., Ballina, with a ticket purchased from Miss Quinn, Royal Hotel, Belmullet, won £100 in the Hospitality Stakes draw last week, while Mr. T. Mitchell, King St., with a ticket bought from Miss McNamara, Bridge St., Ballina, won a similar prize.

G. A. A.

North Mayo Board

Minutes Questioned.

Rev. P. Barrett, C.C. (Chairman) presided at a meeting of the North Mayo District Board G.A.A., held in the Commercial Hall, on Sunday night last. Clubs represented were: Ballina—Rev. M. J. Feeney, C.C.; Messrs. P. Sheridan, G. Courrell, D. Scanlon, P. Sullivan and M. J. Barrett, N.T. (Juvenile League); Ardarae—Messrs. Sean O'Riadaigh, Eamonn Walsh, T. Diamond, Brian Scanlon; Boninacloen—Rev. E. O'Hara, C.C.; Killala—Mr. Frank Carroll; Belmullet—Thomas Sweeney and Wm. Cuffe. Before the minutes were signed, Mr. Ruddy (Ardarae) said it was recorded that permission be given to have the game between the Stephenites and Moygownagh replayed, but from his recollection it had been decided by the Board to let the League table stand. An objection had been made to the game being replayed, and that objection had not been withdrawn. Anyway the whole thing was out of order. The Chairman said the question now facing the Board was that if the minutes were a correct copy of what transpired at the previous meeting. It was not a question of what was out of order. Were the minutes correct? Mr. Courrell said he was present at the last meeting of the Board, and the minutes now read were correct. If the Ballina and Moygownagh fixture was not agreed on why should fresh fixtures have been made? Ballina had played Moygownagh that day (Sunday) and if Mr. Ruddy was correct what was to become of Ballina's points? Mr. Ruddy—That is your own funeral. Mr. Barrett said that Mr. Carroll had raised an objection at the last meeting all right, but he subsequently withdrew it. Mr. Courrell—I don't remember any resolution made here that the league be let stand as it was. Chairman—Who proposed the resolution? Mr. Ruddy—I did, and it was seconded by Mr. Barrett. It was not withdrawn. Mr. Carroll—I only withdrew my objection. Chairman—Evidently the fixtures were agreed to, otherwise they would not have been made. What we are concerned with now are the minutes. Mr. Barrett—The resolution was proposed and seconded. Mr. Carroll—But I withdrew my objection. Mr. Ruddy—That is a different thing altogether. Mr. Carroll—I don't remember the resolution being withdrawn. Chairman—Then you still support the resolution? Mr. Carroll said there was no mention of the resolution being withdrawn. Chairman—If that is the case I maintain that the refixtures are out of order. Mr. Courrell said the matter was in connection with the refixing of the Ballina v. Moygownagh game at Moygownagh. Mr. Carroll said the refixtures were not made with his consent. He only withdrew his objection, which was quite a different thing. Mr. Courrell—You agreed to the refixture. Mr. Carroll—I only withdrew my objection to you playing Moygownagh. The Chairman said he didn't see that this had anything to do with the Board. When the fixtures were made they must have been agreed to and that settles it. Secretary—I held at that meeting that the whole thing was irregular. Mr. Barrett said there was a general conversation on the matter as to whether or not there should be a replay, but it was decided that the league table be allowed to stand. Mr. Carroll said there was no notice of motion before the Board to refix the matches. After further discussion it was decided that the Secretary add to the minutes that "Mr. Ruddy (Ardarae) proposed a resolution that no fixtures be remade and that the league table be allowed to stand." Mr. Carroll said he only withdrew his objection to prevent a lot of controversy over nothing. Mr. Ruddy said Ardarae were down to play Ballycastle at Ballycastle that day in the league, but he received word from Ballycastle that they were not playing as they had dropped out of the league, so Ardarae did not travel. Mr. Carroll said the teams should keep going whether they were out of the league or not. There was no further discussion.

Minors Get Free.

It was stated in reply to a question by Mr. Courrell, as to whether the Board had fixed field prices for minor teams, that the prices were 10s for juniors, £1 for seniors, and where juniors and intermediate played on the same pitch, £1 5s. When those prices were fixed the Board was not concerned with minor teams. Fr. O'Hara said he did not think it fair to charge minor teams. Mr. O'Sullivan—No, they should be free. Fr. Feeney said they wanted to encourage the minors. Mr. Courrell asked would 10s suffice when a junior and minor team played on one venue. Fr. O'Hara—That is so. A Serious Matter. The Secretary drew the attention of the Board to an advertisement published in a local paper which advertised a monster victory dance to be held at Ballycastle next month. The advertisement was headed "G.A.A." He thought that this was a serious matter for the Ballycastle Club and the Board would like to know whether that Club had been responsible for the advertisement. The Secretary was instructed to write the Secretary of the Club and request him to inform the Board whether or not the advertisement referred to had been published at the Club's request and with its permission. The Secretary said that the Ballycastle Club might not have been responsible for the insertion, but at all events it was bringing the G.A.A. into peculiar light. A club that would do this should know better than bringing discredit on the G.A.A.

MR. KILDUFF REPLIES

Insurance of Players

Question of Selections

At a meeting of the North Mayo Divisional Board G.A.A., held in the Commercial Hotel, Ballina, on Sunday night, Rev. P. Barrett, C.C. (Chairman) presiding, Mr. P. Kilduff, N.T., said he had a few matters to bring up at that meeting. It had been stated at a meeting of the Ballina Stephenites that there was no insurance scheme in force to cover injured players and that it had fallen through after the first year. That was not so. The insurance scheme was still there for anyone who wanted to avail of it. Mr. Courrell asked how was the scheme worked. Mr. Kilduff said not less than twenty players could be insured through their own clubs. The reason why no players were insured locally was because they had not made any move through their clubs. Unless they were insured through their clubs the Co. Board could do nothing, as it could not insure the players. That was a matter entirely for the clubs. Mr. Carroll said it should be compulsory on all clubs to insure their players. Mr. Courrell said the insurance of players was absolutely essential. Chairman—I think this scheme should be reorganised amongst the clubs. Mr. Carroll said clubs should not be registered unless they have their players insured. The clubs should be compelled to insure all players. It was in the interests of the players. Mr. Kilduff—Of course.

Selecting Players.

Mr. Kilduff said it had also been stated at a meeting of the Stephenites that delegates from North Mayo to the Co. Selection Committee were doing nothing to have certain players picked for the Co. team. He did not think that such a statement was fair to the North Mayo delegates. "We are charged that since Mayo came back from America we are like a lot of oysters," Mr. Kilduff proceeded. "As far as we are concerned we are only four in North Mayo and there are 18 other members of the Selection Committee. Time and again we have proposed players from North Mayo and Ballina, and invariably—almost invariably—we have been out voted. If we regard certain players as suitable all we can do is to propose them for selection and support them, but we cannot force the matter down the throats of the other members." Fr. Feeney, supporting Mr. Kilduff, said he was correct. He recalled that on one occasion last year when he proposed a certain player from North Mayo, Mr. Kilduff seconded, but the North Mayo delegates were outvoted. The Chairman said he had given what he considered a very satisfactory explanation at the Stephenites meeting relative to the statement in connection with the matters adopted by the Selection Committee, but evidently the Press had taken no note of his explanation.

About The Teachers.

Mr. Kilduff—There is just another thing. At the Stephenite meeting a remark was passed that they were afraid of the teachers at the Selection Committee meetings. He did not know whether that was meant as a joke or otherwise, but if it were a joke it might easily be misunderstood and misconstrued. It could create a very wrong impression. Fr. Feeney said it was not meant as a reflection in any way on the teachers. It was only said in joke. Mr. Kilduff—I hope so, but these things can be misunderstood. These things read very badly with the public.

Belmullet's Request.

Mr. Tom Sweeney said he had come specially from Belmullet to request the Board if they would agree to a game between one of the division teams and Belmullet. Things were going extremely well in Belmullet at the moment, and the Club had received great support from the local people all the season round. It was intended to give their supporters a good game of football at Belmullet in return for their support. The Chairman said he was glad to hear that the Belmullet Club was making such fine progress. There would be no objection to giving them a team for a challenge match. Mr. Sweeney said it would be understood that Belmullet were willing to come out the country for a game. The players were anxious to travel. Chairman—We shall fix a game for you.

RECENT BALLINA DEATHS.

Votes of Sympathy.

At a meeting of the North Mayo Board of the G.A.A. on Sunday evening the Chairman, Fr. Barrett, proposed a deep vote of sympathy to Mr. M. Heffernan, a very ardent Ballina Gael, on the recent death of his young daughter. Fr. Feeney seconded. Mr. G. Courrell proposed a vote of sympathy to Mr. Paddy Judge, Ardarae, on the death of his father, who, he said, was a great follower of the Stephenites. The Chairman seconded. Mr. Sheridan proposed a vote of sympathy to the Browne and Jordan families, Ballina, in their recent bereavements. Mr. Courrell seconded. All the votes were passed in silence, the delegates standing. This concluded the business.

THE ECONOMIC WAR.

Who Is Paying?

Dealing with the economic war and the Coal-Cattle Pact at a Fine Gael meeting on Tuesday, Mr. Cosgrave said: "The result of the whole business is that by arrangement the Irish Government facilitates the British Government in collecting not only every penny in dispute but more than is claimed. That money is collected in the words of the head of the Government with dislocation of trade and with injury to us. It entails hardship on our people, loss of employment, and a flight from Ireland of young men and women. No Sale to Japan. The Cleveland Bay Horse Society has refused to negotiate with Japanese Government representatives with regard to the sale of horses—the Farmer and Stock Breeder. DEATH. LEWIS (Ballina)—October 25th, 1937, at her residence, Charles St., Ballina, Elizabeth, beloved wife of Wm. Lewis, "Ballina Herald" Staff. American papers, please copy.