

FATAL ACCIDENT

The Acting-Coroner (F.A. JOYCE Esq.,) held an inquest at the Weeks Road Congregation Mission Hall on Tuesday afternoon concerning the death of **William Daniel DYER**, 73, of 48 Alfred Street, who died last week as a result of injuries received whilst following his employment as a carter in July last. Mr. J. E. ELDRIDGE represent Mr. PAUL, the man's employer, and the Royal Insurance Co.

Mary Ann DYER, daughter of deceased, identified the body and said her father had been a carter in the employ of Mr. Harry PAUL, Jubilee Mills, Park-road. Up to July 2nd he had been engaged in carting coke from Newchurch railway station to the waterworks. She received a note about 6 p.m. that evening stating that he had met with an accident, and she subsequently saw him in the I.W. County Hospital, where he remained for a month and then came home, but he did not return to work as he complained of his injuries. He told her he was going along the road and about to get on the cart when some sheep frightened the horse which ran away and knocked him down, the cart passing over him. There were some pipes on the cart which deceased told her he had carried, and that Mr. PAUL knew all about it. Her father had been doing carting for Mr. PAUL for 37 years. The pipes were not Mr. PAUL's property. The horse had shied before.

In reply to Mr. ELDRIDGE, witness said she understood that the cart had not been used in that form for carting pipes before.

Lilian M. YOUNG, wife of Walter Charles YOUNG, Langridge Newchurch, stated that while sitting in her kitchen she saw the horse out of control and deceased on the side of the cart as if he was about to jump. The animal went about 50 yards before deceased fell and the cart went over him. A military doctor attended to him, and he was afterwards removed to hospital. There were five iron pipes on the cart. The board in front had apparently shifted and possibly touched the horse, one of the pipes also slipping towards the horse.

James HAYDEN, builder and wheelwright, of Brooklyn, Newchurch, deposed that he saw the horse and cart and deceased opposite Mrs. YOUNG's cottage, coming down the hill, the animal having bolted. Deceased fell 65 yards from the cottage, but he was not able to say what frightened the horse. He saw the cart afterwards and observed the top board had been broken open, apparently from the pressure of the iron pipes. Witness stopped the horse 150 yards further along. He had not seen deceased carry pipes before although he had been to the station yard once previously that day. Deceased usually sat on the shafts.

In reply to Mr. ELDRIDGE witness said the cart was not fit to hold pipes.

Dr. A. B. WADE, house-surgeon at the County Hospital, gave particulars of deceased's injuries when admitted and said he gradually improved during the month, and left on August 2nd at his own request. He could then walk alright.

Dr. Thomas INGLIS, High Park-road, said he attended deceased first on December 17th at his house and found him suffering from abdominal pain which he said was occasioned by a heavy cart passing over him. Deceased was suffering from peritonitis as a result of the injury. There was no external mark on him. It became of a septic character and formed an abscess, the peritonitis increasing, and he died on January 16th. Deceased said he had never been free from pain since the accident happened. He remained in bed from the time witness saw him. No operation had been made. Deceased made no complaint about the hospital.

Mr. ELDRIDGE : My client knows nothing about the pipes.

The Coroner said he was quite sure the deceased took the pipes voluntarily but that had no part of his case, and he gave the verdict that deceased died from septic peritonitis arising from the injuries sustained by being run over.
