



ATTACK: Dr Ciaran Bolger

Doc attacks 'Stalin-style' health care

By NICOLA TALLANT

ONE of Ireland's top neurosurgeons has launched a scathing attack on the HSE saying they are a throwback to Stalin's Russia and are trying to create 'yellow pack' doctors.

Dr Ciaran Bolger of Beaumont Hospital says that the health authority is using 'reforms' to gag critics and create an even more backward system than currently exists.

He says that despite its funding flaws, the current system - where consultants can practice both privately and publicly - is better for public patients as they have access to the best surgeons.

Contracts

But he believes that the new HSE contracts which employ consultants on a public-only basis will backfire and result in an exodus of the best medics into private practice.

Dr Bolger, Ireland's leading specialist in spinal surgery, says that the HSE are the worst thing that has happened to the country's health system.

"Although the current system is not a good one, it is far better than what they are proposing. Currently public patients gain out of what is in place because they have access to people with vast experience.

"The HSE now wishes to employ many on the basis of restricting them from working privately and that is going to force the best into fully private practice."

● Dr Bolger will feature on Surgeons on RTE One on Thursday, May 29th, at 10.15pm.

FUNDAY WORLD

A MAN called the emergency services FIFTEEN times to ask them to call him a taxi. Eventually police in Waco, Texas, had to go to his apartment and arrest him for harassment.

COPS PROBE RAIL DEATH

GARDAÍ in Co Westmeath are investigating the circumstances surrounding the death of man on a railway line near Athlone.

It is understood the man, who was in his 50s, died after he was struck by a train travelling from Galway to Dublin on Friday evening.

ANOTHER SUNDAY WORLD EXCLUSIVE



SLAUGHTER: Forensic scientists comb the scene for clues and, inset, murder victim Christy Hanley



OPEN COFFIN SHOCK FOR MOURNERS AT CHRISTY'S REMOVAL

Family wanted locals to see what thugs did



GRISLY: Gardaí search Christy's home

MOURNERS openly wept last night as they saw the battered face of murdered bachelor Christy Hanley during the removal ceremony.

Niece Brenda Harvey, who had travelled over from Birmingham to Kilbeggan, told the *Sunday World*: "We decided to have an open coffin so people would see what those thugs did to him.

"His poor nose is broken and his face is all bruised and cut. I don't know what they used to injure him like that but it must have been a horrible death for him. And his hands and feet were tied to the chair.

"They ransacked his house," she added. "I was in it and saw what they did. They took everything. Like the priest said, he was too trusting."

Locals in the scenic town of Kilbeggan in Co Westmeath, were still in shock this weekend after the brutal slaughter of the popular horse-trader.

Mourn

They turned out to mourn their friend at the removal at the local church last night, where priest Fr Laurie Halpin received the remains.

Members of the family travelled from Birmingham, Dublin and Mullingar for the removal last night. More relatives from Limerick are expected to attend the funeral on Monday.

Father Halpin said: "He was a simple man who prayed her every Saturday night. Unfortunately he was also a trusting man - he was too trusting. We pray that those who perpetrated this crime will be found and that they will



GRUESOME: Christy Hanley's home is cordoned off by detectives

By GERALDINE COMISKEY

be brought to justice." It was revealed yesterday that Christy died just yards away from the spot where his sister had been killed 12 months ago.

His younger sister Peggy Casey, who lived in Limerick, had been visiting Christy when she was struck by a lorry as she crossed the road in front of the house in Kilbeggan.

And their youngest sister Hannah, who lived with Christy, had died of ailments a year ago, neighbours said.

Gardaí said Christy died of injuries during a savage assault. Superintendent Aidan Glacken appealed to the person who called the gardai early on Thursday morning - to alert them to Christy's plight - to get in touch. The gardai would also like to hear from anyone who was in the Kilbeggan area between 5pm on Wednesday and early Thursday morning.

The man everyone described as a

"gentleman through and through" was well-known at horse-fairs throughout the country - and it is believed that his success at selling horses got him killed.

He sold the last of his piebald ponies just weeks ago and is believed to have got a "decent price for them", a local man said.

Tied

But Christy didn't get a chance to celebrate his good fortune; he was found severely injured and tied to a chair in his tiny two-room cottage on the town's main street on Thursday morning.

A post-mortem revealed that he had died of his injuries.

Gardaí broke down the door after an anonymous tip-off about the murder.

The attacker is believed to have entered through a window which had been broken during the raid.

Large numbers of detectives and uniformed gardai have spent the last few days quizzing locals. But Christy's drinking pals in the Black Kettle pub told the *Sunday World*: "We don't have a clue who did it."