Judgment reserved in mosque sale case

By a staff reporter

THE long legal battle to decide the future of a Pakistani mosque at Industry Road, Darnall, reached a final phase yesterday when Deputy Judge Arnold reserved his judgment.

The case was resumed at Sheffield County Court on Wednesday after an adjournment lasting two months.

Mr. Peter Baker, counsel for the plaintiffs, said that the case arose because of the closure of the mosque last year and a purported sale having been made by four trustees.

He appeared on behalf of Mohammed Nur, Mohammed Sadiq Malik and Mohammed Aslam, who were said to represent other members of Sheffield's Pakistani community.

The claim

They are seeking a perpetual injunction preventing the sale of the mosque, and damages.

The respondents were four trustees of the mosque, Choudry Karam Dad, Ali Hedar, Waris Ali, and Munshi Khan, and two people said to have entered into agreement with them, Wali Mohammed and Hamida Deen.

At the opening of the case in October Mr. Baker alleged that in offering the mosque for sale the trustees had acted without proper regard for the beneficiaries of the trust which included the Pakistani Moslem community as a whole.

He said the agreed purchase price of £1,200 was less than had been paid when the mosque was bought by public subscription in 1962, and he claimed that according to a declaration of trust the mosque could not be sold without a meeting of the congregation.

Giving evidence through an interpreter, Choudry Karam Dad, who is chairman of the Pakistani Moslem Asspciation in Sheffield, said that in April last year a meeting was held at a mosque in Bodmin Street, Attercliffe, where it was decided to sell the premises at Industry Road.

Submission

He said: "I knew that a notice of the meeting should have been put up at Industry Road and everyone seemed pleased so I didn't bother."

Mr. Martin Hargan, counsel for the four trustees, said in his submission that selling the mosque at Industry Road was to the benefit of all parties concerned.

"Bodmin Street mosque is the natural successor to the one at Industry Road. Evidence has been given that it is a very satisfactory place of worship," he said.

"These men have acted in good faith. There is no question of my clients putting any money from the sale anywhere else except into Bodmin Street to redecorate and furnish it. I think there is a clash of personalities here," he said.

Training sprint for (from left)—Christine, Lynn, Susan, Lynette, Elaine and Ann.

39 Burngreave homes to go in slums plan

By a staff reporter

RESIDENTS of 39 terraced houses in Burngreave, Sheffield, have been told by the Corporation that the properties are now in the current clearance programme.

All the homes were due to come down in the 1973-4 programme, but because of their poor condition they are to be cleared earlier than planned.

The houses affected are Nos. 1-11 and 2-10, Hooton Street; 24-42 and 54-66, Earldom Road; 2-12, Milton Street; and 31-39, Lyons Road.

Some of the residents have rented the houses for as long as 40 years, but few appear to be sorry they will have to move.

A 79-year-old widow in Malton Street said she hoped to be transferred to a modern flat or bedsitter.

Another widow, Mrs. Ethel Booth, aged 62, of Lyons Road, claimed her house was damp and "falling to pieces" in parts. "I couldn't stand another winter here," she said.

Stocksbridge girls win race title

By a staff reporter

A TEAM of girls from Stocksbridge Secondary School have won the junior race in the Yorkshire Women's Cross Country Championships.

First home, and now the new Yorkshire Junior Champion was 13-year-old Lynn Turner, of Beechwood Road, Stocksbridge.

The other team members were Elaine Walton, 14, of Oakes Avenue, Christine Horton, 12, and 11-year-old twins Susan and Ann Barrett, of Kenworthy Road and Lynette Gridley, of St. Paulls Close, Deepcar.

SHEFFIELD GIRL STARS IN TV COMMERCIALS

The daughter of a former Sheffield family who emigrated to Australia from their Intake home is now established on Australian television.

The face of nine-year-old Angela Needham is seen by thousands of Australian viewers in a TV commercial advertising butter.

Angela is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. J. B. Needham, of Adelaide, South Australia, who used to live in Quarry Vale Road before going "down under."

One-day exhibition

A one-day exhibition of new developments in electro-forming of precious metals is to be held at Sheffield College of Technology on January 9.

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