Closely guarded delay secret revealed

LIMERICK BRIDGE RUNS INTO PROBLEMS

IT WAS CONFIRMED this Friday that the developers building the third bridge across the Shannon have run into some technical difficulties and there could be a few months delay in the completion.

City engineer, Mr. Michael MacCurtain, has confirmed there has been a delay and that Ascon, the developers, are now re-assessing the whole building programme.

GIRL IN A coats

GERALDINE DESIGNS STAMP FOR MONACO

By MARY HEENAN

MAKING headlines in the principality of Monaco is a former graduate of the Limerick School of Art – one of her designs was recently selected for a stamp, depicting an Olympic swimmer.

Geraldine Sadlier, a native of Revilganny, North Circular Road, is daughter of Mrs. Mary Sadlier and the late Mr. Michael Sadlier, a former director of the Thomond Furniture Factory, Elnis Road.

Geraldine received her A.T.C. from the Limerick School of Art and Design. After qualifying she spent a number of years teaching art in Kinnitty and in St. Gerard’s Primary, before emigrating to Monaco.

First time

“This is the first time one of her designs was selected for a stamp – it’s a great achievement for her,” said her mother this week.

Geraldine said that the stamp, which was selected following a competition in Monaco, had been issued in the past few weeks. “And of course we are very proud of her,” added Mrs. Sadlier.

Geraldine has been living in Menton (which is about 1 km) the past four years.

An unusual feature of this 6 franc stamp is Geraldine’s design, which is based on the pattern of an ancient coin.

The bridge was due to be opened in April 1988 but now there are doubts about this date.

Mr. MacCurtain confirmed that there could be a delay of a couple of months but nothing was certain as Ascon re-assessed their programme.

“There is a bit of a delay — nothing too serious — with the placing of the piers,” he stated.

It has been learned that Ascon took much longer than expected to put in place the third of the six piers.

“They are looking at the situation and might be able to make up the time,” said Mr. MacCurtain.

40 ft. down

While he would not comment on any further, sources state that Ascon ran into trouble with limestone rock 40 feet down at the river bed.

A spokesman for Ascon refused to comment and said that it was a matter for the Corporation.

It is expected that Ascon will shortly begin work on the fourth pier.

The matter of a possible delay has been kept a closely guarded secret between Corporation officials and Ascon.

Who will have to pay out money — if there are extra costs involved — is not known.

1 LATEST: A spokesman for Ascon this Friday told the Limerick Leader that they had been delayed in the expected placing of pier 3 as they had to remove some 700 tons of limestone rock from the river bed in this area.

“This work has been successfully completed and half the foundations of the bridge have now been laid in seven months. There is concrete on two of the seven spans and we are confident that the bridge will be finished by late 1988 — the original completion date.”