

# Limerick Chronicle

(Established 1766)

SATURDAY, AUGUST 17, 1968.

the Tipperary representative the Munster final, Lymaelligott on Sunday disposed of the champion, Frank McManis, in the national final. McAuliffe, who has chosen to date without a game, scored a hat-trick victory at the Kerry final on Monday with scores of 1-9.

Pat Bennis (St. Mary's) having disposed of the challenge, has qualified for the All-Ireland final which he meets on August 21-22 before the hurling gods at the Muintir na Tire grounds in Tipperary. The fact that he is the only player from Broadacross, one of the smallest parishes in the county, to be named in the All-Ireland final is a reward for his skill with a beautiful and beautiful.

ing is just now one of the preoccupations of the members of the Limerick Swimming Club. As a result of the work and dedication of the club, it has succeeded in the local target cost of the proposed swimming pool of £2,000. The pool has been approved in the County Council grants in aid area, from the county as well as the Department of Local Government. The campaign in a contest to be held at the Hille Hall on Wednesday, August 21. By the way, the Rev. Fr. Ferguson's Revelon's, the Rev. Margaret Spillane, a free gift scheme which will be also tea and refresh-

**COURSE**  
**LOSED**  
Limerick Golf Club closed today in memory of the late Hartman.

**her**  
final year in the latter (in college) the cover fees, schemes are in place is also

# Manager orders probe

**THE** City Manager, Mr. T. F. McDermott, is to carry out a full inquiry concerning equipment used by the Limerick Fire Brigade as a result of yesterday's disastrous fire in Cruise's Hotel.

It must be stressed that the brigade were in no way to blame. The equipment was just not there and the ladder failed to reach the required height.

Portion of the third storey was very badly damaged and part of the fourth storey. When the fire brigade received the call they understood, or were led to believe, that it was only a small fire and all available equipment was not utilised. Mr. Don Dinneen, a local businessman, was one of the first to climb the ladder, but it failed to operate properly as it was not properly hooked, with the result the top portion collapsed, thereby nearly causing a tragedy. Thomas Roche climbed up and succeeded in bridging the gap between the window and the ladder and brought four of the women to safety. Today the hotel was open as usual for business on the ground floor only and workmen were erecting scaffolding to carry out repairs to the damaged storeys. It is expected that the hotel will be back to normal within a week.

## History

Cruise's Hotel was established in 1791 and fast built up a reputation as one of the outstanding hotels in the south of Ireland. Formerly known as the Mall Coach Hotel, it acquired its present name from a business which was started there over a century ago. It came under the ownership

## New British credit squeeze?

Since the British Government tightened up on credit in May, the banks have been finding it increasingly difficult to meet demands for lending. Now the spotlight in London financial circles is on the possible tightening of the credit squeeze

of the Kenneally family in 1966. An elaborate development programme was begun and a new wing which was added increased the number of bedrooms to 86, each with television. A modern ballroom, a new luxury grill room, a new facade and many other features were provided.

Mr. Keenely went to Cruise's in 1952 as Manager, and after four years acquired interests in other local hotels. He disposed of those interests when he and his family acquired Cruise's.

Early in 1964 the hotel was acquired by the Trinidad Sugar Estates Company for a sum said to be in the region of £250,000. A few years later the hotel reverted to the ownership of Mr. Kenneally.

The scheme of improvements undertaken by Mr. Keenely in 1962 cost £90,000, and reconstruction work on the ground floor and entrance hall of the hotel led to the discovery of the original flagstones where the coach offices and coaches were situated, and on which worked many of Europe's royalty, brilliant stage personalities, eminent barristers and patriots.

## Family

Proprietor of the hotel in 1791 was George Russell, member of a famous Limerick family of industrialists and philanthropists. He retired in 1806, and was followed in their time by Samuel Dickson, William Collop and Eliza Moriarty. Then came Daniel Cruise, one of the greatest hoteliers of his day, and it was he who made Cruise's Hotel world famous. After him came Joseph Cleary, who later became Mayor of Limerick and President of Shannon Rowing Club.

The Flynn family next took over proprietorship, and in 1960 Mr. Kenneally purchased it from Mr. Patrick O'Donoghue (a former owner of Shelburne Park Greyhound Track for £70,000). Cruise's Hotel was the Theatre Royal, in a street where the Augustinian Church now stands. It was the home and mess of the Barristers of the Munster Circuit, and from the beginning of the 19th century, Daniel O'Connell stayed there.

Early patriots familiar to Cruise's included Smith O'Brien, Mitchell and Meagher. In 1898 it welcomed John O'Donovan, one of Ireland's greatest historians and scholars. The great novelist, Thackeray, stayed there, and so did the famous duellist, Tom Steele. Such were a few of the famous figures that made his history and made Cruise's a part of it.



● A picture by John Wright that sums up the drama of yesterday's blaze. More photographs on pages 8 & 9.

# UCL: Lenihan promises statement

# MAYOR GETS ASSURANCE

**EDUCATION** Minister, Mr. Brian Lenihan, T.D., has assured the Mayor, Cllr. Jack Bourke, that he will be making a positive statement within the next month as to the future of higher educa-

**Limerick man dies in crash**

**CHANGE OF DATE**

**More unemployed**

THE Cecilia Musical Society have announced that their aut-  
The number of persons on the live register at local employ-