

● There was a time when there were over 200 ballrooms playing host to such bands as The Clipper Carlton, The Royal Showband, Donie Collins, The Dixies, Johnny Quigley, Gay McIntyre, the Capitol, the Miami and countless more.

● Today only 20 ballrooms still operate in the country, compared with 200 less than fifteen years

Cruise's Hotel, Limerick

● For almost 20 decades, Cruises Hotel in Limerick has played host to travellers, diners and visitors from all over the world.

● Its history goes back to the days when the Royal Mail Coach—pulled by a team of horses—used to pass through what is now the entrance hall and continue on through the present-day reception area and hall and finish up at the stables in the rear.

● The ticket office was located where the lounge is today and many guests are fascinated by the enlarged photograph of a stage coach ticket from Limerick to Dublin, dated 1834, and costing 32/6 (£1.62½p).

● When the hotel was built in 1791, the street was called George's Street, and was not re-named O'Connell Street until the following century. "Only one side of the street was built on at that time—the other side was marshy ground," says Mr. Colm Kenneally, the owner of Cruises.

● The first owner was George Russell Francis, followed by Samuel Dickson, William Collopy and Eliza Moriarty. She was followed by the famous Edward Cruise, who proved himself a great hotelier, so much so that the hotel was called after him. Cruise was a personal friend of the great Liberator, Daniel O'Connell, who stayed at the hotel many times.

● After his election in Clare, on the following Monday, O'Connell addressed thousands of supporters on his arrival at Cruises.

● O'Connell was only one of the many famous people who stayed in the hotel. Michael Collins often stayed there. Every Irish President has stayed there, and Eamon de Valera always asked for the Presidential Suite, Room 249.

● In fact, its guests list reads like a Who's Who, with such names as Sean Lemass, Mr. Cosgrave, Jack Lynch, Garret FitzGerald, Sir John Barbaroli, Sir Malcolm Sargeant, Yehudi Menuhin, Sir Thomas Beecham, Gene Kelly, Gregory Peck, Maureen O'Hara, Van Johnson, Siobhan McKenna and Mohammed Ali.

● Cruises has always kept up with the latest trends and a special Advertising Feature in this issue spotlights its most recent achievements.

● May we join with the many advertisers associated with the feature in wishing continued success to Cruise's Hotel and its most capable, efficient and ever courteous man at the helm—Mr. Colm Kenneally.

Castleconnell

● Castleconnell—that lovely, tranquil village just six miles from Limerick—will have its annual festival from Thursday, May 9, to Sunday, May 19.

● As usual, the dedicated committee have put together a varied and interesting programme which will cater for all tastes, from an all-star variety of children's sports, and from a Fashion

● Several of the best-known ballrooms in the county are no longer operating on a full time basis, notably the Oyster in Dromkeen; the Olympic in Newcastlewest, while Shanagolden, Athea and that lovely Town Hall in Croom are stark reminders of other days.

Gulliver's Tavern

● I had a sneak preview of Limerick's newest lounge—Gulliver's Tavern—in O'Connell Street, Limerick, this week.

● Situated in the basement of the Stella Restaurant, Gulliver's is a spacious lounge with plenty of seating and a distinctive atmosphere.

● The walls are of stone—which is so fashionable these days—and there are pictures, prints and maps on the walls. One is especially worth a comment, it shows Limerick in 1816 and is captioned as follows—Limmericke.

● The tavern is bigger than its first impressions convey, and it seems to open out in all directions as soon as one gets one's bearings, after descending the flight of stone steps from O'Connell Street.

● The toilets have received very special attention and I am sure that Gulliver's will become very popular in a very short time.

Thady's Remedy

● Thady's Remedy will be this Saturday's attraction in Coaster's Nite Club in Tarbert.

● This is a venue which has enjoyed exceptional success for the past eight months or so.

● Patrons of this nitery are eligible for the raffle for tickets to the Bruce Springsteen Concert in Slate with transport laid on.

Now that we are open

We hope we'll see you there

at the

Cottage Restaurant
in Adare



Our "SALAD BAR" is a delight

for the moment the vegetable dishes are out of sight

You pick and choose just as you wish

A SALAD to accompany your choice of dish.

Cottage Restaurant

IS OPEN NOW — from 6.00pm - 9.30pm.

MONDAYS - SATURDAYS.

For Reservations Phone 94520.

Many thanks to those who supported our "opening" week.

— Corry and Gabriele.

COTTAGE
Restaurant

Main Street
Adare
Co. Limerick

061-94520/94564

(€11/3775)

SORRY!

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